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NON FICTION

LIFE STORY

REMEMBER

BY:

ROSE LOVY
ROSE LOVY



Lovy Moshe
Zapreb 1938 yepostlari



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REMEMBER

Following are the the reasons I chose the title "Now or Never" and what prompted me to write this book.

Orphaned at an early age, I was looking for people my own age and background which whom I could identify as Jew and discuss problems common to Jews in pre-World War II Europe. I joined BETAR a Jewish organization, and was assigned the task of organizing the Jewish Youth in Yugoslavia and prepare them for immigration to Palestine.

In September 1939 Germany occupied the Sudette (Checkoslovakia) and I was drafted to the Yugoslavian ~~Yugosl~~ Army. One night I dreamed that I was standing with a group of Jews and opposite us stood German soldiers armed to the teeth, their guns pointed at us. I remembered this dream as I followed the news of Germany's advance in Eastern Europe. I came to the conclusion that it won't be long before the Germans occupy Yugoslavia. I felt it was time for me to leave my friends and family and go to Palestine before it will be too late. It was now or never. With very little money and means I left, and attempted to reach Palestine through Greece, Turkey, and Lebanon. Thus began eight years of adventures, from 1939 to 1947. My adventures took me to many countries in the middle east, to British prisons, several escape attempts through the Syrian desert, the false promises of the famous "mirage," then back to Europe, this time right into the hands of the communists who now controlled Yugoslavia. After imprisonment in communist jails, tortures and attempts at escape, I again tried to reach Palestine, this time by walking through war torn Europe, through Austria, Germany, France. HUNGARY In Southern France I boarded a small overloaded ship that leaked as soon as it set out and tried to make it via the Mediterranean to Palestine. This trip ended in capture by the British, internment in Cyprus (at the time of the famous Exodus affair), release and finally Palestine, only to fight again, this time the British, more jailing in some famous British prisons in Palestine (like the Akko prison), and JERUSALEM finally the Israeli Independence War.

During my eight years of adventure and danger, I crossed 14 borders and three continents, most of them on foot. I have photos from the places I passed through, documents (such as a post war document testifying that I was unfit to serve in the communist army, because of my opposition to the regime), and maps showing my different routes.

While many stories have been written and published about the War years, not many tell the stories of people who were lucky enough to get out of the European inferno in time. While I was one of the few lucky ones, I reached my goal and destination with considerable danger, risk of life and eventful incidents which I believe can be just as interesting to the general reader as the stories of those who were unfortunate enough to be in the Nazi concentration camps.

My story is all on paper ~~and I can now work long hours and start right tomorrow~~. If you are interested in more details, I would be happy to hear from you.

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LEVY MOSHE
1946



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1952

C O N T E N T ' S

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I R E M E M B E R
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When I was about 5 years old, on an occasion my dearest in that world Mother, told me: that I was born on November 12 1914 years in the city of Stara Kanjiza (Yugoslavia), because we was 5 sibling's in the family, and I was the youngest from them and that occasion my oldest brother told my Mother; why she dont exchange me with the "Bird STORK", who bring me to my family and kep the bird on my place, because he don't want me like young brother, (I think that was a joke!), that time my brother was 7 year's old.

That time the city where I was born Stara Kanjiza, belonged to the Hungarian-Austrian Monarchy.

My Mother was a landlady, and my Father was a Butcher. We were a middle class family with 5 children; 3 boys and 2 girls. We lived like someone in the small city, with very nice flower garden's everywhere and with our mineral water, in the city what was running (flowing) day and night very-very healthy water in the city.

But one day my Father received a message with a order to join the ARMY, because of the first World War broke out. My Father sold our house, and we went to the city of "UJ VIDEK" ("NOVI-SAD") ^{YUGOSL.} (what for I don't know!), but when we arrived there, my Father purchased a large house for us, and also opposit of that house another house with a store, where my Mother was selling milk for the whole neighbourhood, so my Father was join the Hungarian Austrian Army.

After he went away, very long time we don't hear nothing about his stay, for that we lived in a very big fear about, we was five sibling's small kids at home alone, and when we hear some shouting we just escaped in the house under the bed, some time so long that we just asleep there.

After some time it was silence in the city, so that on Sunday's when the store was closed where my Mother was selling the milk,

we went to walk on the street's, where we meet many people, mostly women's with their children's, and we was playing together with them, because their Father was also joining the Army.

I Remember, that we must walking every 2-3 day's to the park for bringing some fresh drinking water, because only that water was healthy for drinking and we also must pay for that, that water was flowing day and night's.

I Remember, one windy day I was walking with my friend's of mine to the shore of the DONAU river, where we find a boat what was swinging on the water wave's, we entered the boat and wanted free the boat, because it was binded with rop's, but at once we observe my poor Mother, she was running toward us, and in the last minute she seized us and take out from boat where we was in a big danger.

After a long time my Father arrived home, because was the end of the War, and we were very happy to see him health returning home from the War, and because we hear from other kid's, that their Father was injured and they were in the hospital's for long time recovery.

After my Father arrived home, he sold our house in NOVI SAD-^{to GOSPI} and he took us back to the city of Stara Kanjiza, where we established again our home where my brother's and sister's started to go in the school, and after year-two I followed them, but after some time, my Father must to lieve us for some job, from where he never return's, and because of that, it arrived a very bad and critical situation for my family. My Mother in first time don't realised that she together with us the 5 sibling entered in very bad situation, because after several day's we was unable to find any way how to find out where Father disappeared, and when we contacted the police department and asked them for some help to find where is our Father from once disappeared, nobody hear from him and nobody know's where he went, we, the family make everything, we turned over everywhere and everybody who we know's that perhaps he was in contact with him and asked if they know's where he can be, but on our surprise we received from everybody negative answer, nobody hear from him and nobody see him, so after several day's perhaps week's, under any circumstances we was unable to find him or hear some new's about him.

One day my Mother was invited to the police department, where they handed her over a document, in what they inform her; that they have order to INTERN us out from the COUNTRY of Yugoslavia to HUNGARY, because my Father who disappeared was born in HUNGARY, so; that the next day the authorities put us on the train with direction to the first large city of Hungary "Seged".

When we arrived to that city, we turned to the Hungarian authorities with pleading them to help us to find our Father who was disappeared now for more than two month's. But, after many tortures on the street's without roof over our head, without food, we was wandering from the street's to street's without help from the Hungarian authorities, and I don't know, why my Mother was not searching help from other people's?.

So, after very much trouble's, starve from hunger, rapped and wet to the skin, and we see, that we haven't succeed to find our Father or hear about samthing, we decided to return to Stara Kanjiza, quite without nothing and empty hope's, that we will be able once in our life to find our Father.

So, we lost the last chance for that hop, we arrived back to Stara Kanjiza without the needed requirement, because the Yugoslav authority confiscated all our property after we lieved the city of Stara Kanjiza, because they was thinking that we will never return back to my city where I was born, and we have not where to go, spite that my Mother's Sister's lieved in Kanjiza, and they was enough rich to help us in the first some day's, but when you are in so big trouble, like we were, in that situation, you can't find any good friend's or somebody from the familly, till at last, the city's authority came to help us.

Till today I don't understand what happened between my Mother and her sister's (my oun's) that they don't helped us? in spite they was enough rich!.....

Samthing about my Mother;

When she married, her hausband (my Father) he was not Religious, and for that my Mother's familly denied her from their familly, because my Grand Father, my Mother's Father was a RABAY, a very religious person and from very religious familly, he can't accept the decission of my Mother that she Married a not RELIGIOUS

person, and for that, when we were INTERN to Hungary, she afraid to ask her family's help, and also when we lived in Stara Kanjiza, there were three more her Sister's, and anybody of them don't keep contact with my Mother, and now is for me clear, why my Mother together with us never received some help in our very critical situation, and never was mentioned their name in the family, and my older brother's and sister's never told me about that affair, not when I was a kid, and not also when I grew up, and now I hear about, only by chance!.

About the family of my Mother I know; that her Father, my Grand Father was the GRAND RABAY in BUDA-PEST, HUNGARY, in time of Franc Joseph Monarchy, and his name was Dr. WIEZEL, that is all what I know's about my Grand Father! and his family!..

When we returned to Stara Kanjiza, with difficulty we received some help from the Authorities, so we have where to put down our head and rest a little and some food.....

After a short time we; me and my older sister's start go to the school, my older brother's went to learn profession to be a painter.

M Y M O T H E R ' s D E A D =====

Because of suffering all that, what my MOTHER suffered during the time when we were in "E X I L E"! she become very sick, and because we have no money for doctor's help, so we can't afford medical help, so she finished her very heavy and complicated life, and she D E A D in 1924, abandoned five sibling's without any family help for the FUTURE!.....

Part 2

Now that both parent's were gone, we hade no place to go, non of the familly or friend's, some of whom were qiute well off, would take us into their home.

Now, when my Mother DIE, we left 5 sibling's alone without any parent's help, we was all young and without life experience, but for that, she was not faulty, for our situation was faulty only my Father, who abandoned us alone in that overturned, cold and naked world.

The very day of my Mother's funeral, our relatives; my Mother's sister's, who accompany for the last my Mother's way, brought us to an Institute what was in the same city, where many Orphaned children came together during the WAR were kept.

The manager of the Istitute decided to send my two sister's to another Institute what was only for girls, where they continued their education and also learn to sew and home economy. I was send to another Institution in the city of SENTA what was in the same area.

When I arrived there, the Manager of the Insitute accepted me and showed me all arround the place. In that Institute were about 200 children all boys between 6-10 years of age. The boys just arrived from the city's school. The Institute contained many room's; for sleeping, education, sport and dinning room, it also had a huge backyard for us to play in, and a very large vegetable and fruit garden. That Institute was owned and managed by the Government. The inmates were very well taken care of, all dressed in uniform's a;lways clean and well feed and very well disciplined.

That time I was in age of 10, in beginning it was hard for to accustom mayself to being in the Institute, and for losing my Mother. After a couple of days, I decided to RUN away and go back to my city where I was born, but in knowledge that there I have mbody for who I can calculate to care of of me in the future.

Because I loved my Mother very much and I know's that she loved me to very much, and I was thinking and I was filling that I can't live without my loved Mother, spite that I know's that

she can't help me any more because she is DIED.

The next day when I arrived to the house where I lived with my Mother, the neighbors accepted me to sleep by them, I told them; that I was uncomfortable there and that the emotional pressure from losing my parent's was too hard for me to handle on my own! But the next morning they explained me; that I can't stay with them, and that I must go back to the Institute where they will take care of me, they told me that they are very poor and for that is the best solution that I go back, and continue my life like other young kids, who are there also without their Mother's and Father's. So, in time of breakfast I hear their advice, I choose that is better if I go back. So, I do! And in the same day I arrived back to the Institute, and I went straight to the manager, who was a very nice person, and I asked for SORRY for my fault, and that I changed my mind and I will try to accustom together with other youngs't, and in that moment I realised that I had no choice but to face up to my present situation.

From that day I was one other person, because I see that I haven't other choice, and in the Institute they provided everything what I needed for my advancing in the education, and in short time I find many friends between the other kids.

THE LIFE IN THE INSTITUTE

Every morning we get up exactly in the same time, every day we have to dress and wash. After that, we went to the dining room for breakfast, then we had to line up for control, to see if everybody is clean and well dressed and if everybody took his text book. Before the exit, the student on duty took the branch for his group of students, after that the instructor, who was Russian Emigrant, led us in to the school in the city. After the school hours from 8 a.m. to 11, we returned to the Institute for lunch, after that we rested for 1 hrs. and then we again went to the school from 2-4 p.m. On our return back, we had to make our homework under the supervision of the instructors. Then we were free to play in the backyard till the dinner time, and exactly on a fixed time we went to sleep, but before going to bed, we had to clean our house

and hanf our clothes.

Every Sunday we the kid's helped in the kitchen, and also in the large vegetable garden, and in that work I find big pleasure.

After about one year, the management received order from the government, that they prepare us for change the city, where we will continue our education, so we traveled from Senta to the city of Bela Crkva, where we arrived, and find very nice surroundings in the whole neighborhood in the city's school, the kid's started to love us because we show us like very good and lowed friends, and after a short time the new friends from the city school started visiting us in our Institute (home) and also they invited us to their home's, so our life changed in whole.

When I finished my elementary school, I asked the management; that I would like learn some profession, what will help me for farther education and advance in my life in the future. So they accepted my request and started looking for me some kind of work, so in the surrounding they find a store where the owner was selling grossery and all kind of paint's, I went there to introduce myself, and after information what he become from the Institute, he consent that I learn in his store for three years, and during that time I can continue my school education.

When I start to work, but because my new bos was a German and catolich in his belive Christian, and he with his familly visited their church every Sunday, so they asked me to join them in their church, but I e xplained them that I am a JEWISH what they dont know's till I dont told them, so they lieved me alone and dont asked me more to join them, but what happened during the next several mount's; because he was selling also paint's, so one day he asked me to bring him from the basmen some kind of paint's, when I came to the basement, where the material was stored, I see that this kind of paint was closed and till now no body oppened the barrel, and because till that time I never oppened a barrel with paint's, so it took to long time till I succeeded to oppen, and when I came back to the store

he don't told me nothing, but he started beating me, because it took to long time to make that kind of job. After when he stoped beating me, I went out of the store and start to cry, because I dont feel mayself faulty, because he never showed me how to oppen a barrel with paint, so, standing on the street crying, approach me some person and asked me wy I am crying? When I took my head up, I recognise one of my friend from the Institute, who was learning be a backer, but everyday some hrs; he must walking in the street's and sell roll's, he asked me wy I am crying? I explained him; and after he told me also his bitter story about his life like backer. Standing so in the street hearing each other's story, we decided to quit our job and lieve the place, between we de cided to run away and looking for another some place with new job, mayby with better condition where the bos will not beating us! So we decided to walk to another city and looking (searching)for job, the time was late afternoon, so walking we arrived late in the evening to the first village, and because it was dark and cold, and we were not dressed properly, and we was hungry, without money, so we walked silently woundering what the future had in store for us. It grew darker, and chilly, about midnight we arrived at the first small village, we stoped at a restaurant and asked if we could stay a while to warm up, and get a little bit of food, we told the owner that we didn't have money, but as he was a warm hearted man, he gave us food and let us stay warm up, he allowed us to use the cowshed for overnight to rest. We were very happy that we solved that problem.

When in the morning we wake up, it was very cold and we observe that outside is snowing, after that we entered the restaurant, the bos served us a good breackfast, but between he inform the police department about our present and in a short time we see two police guard entering the restaurant and they stright approach us, they start interrogation us; who we are, and where from we came? After all the question's they asked us to follow them to the police station, in the station the chief police asked us again and again; who we are and where from we came, because we can't show him any document about identification, He start to thinking what to do with us, but after a short time

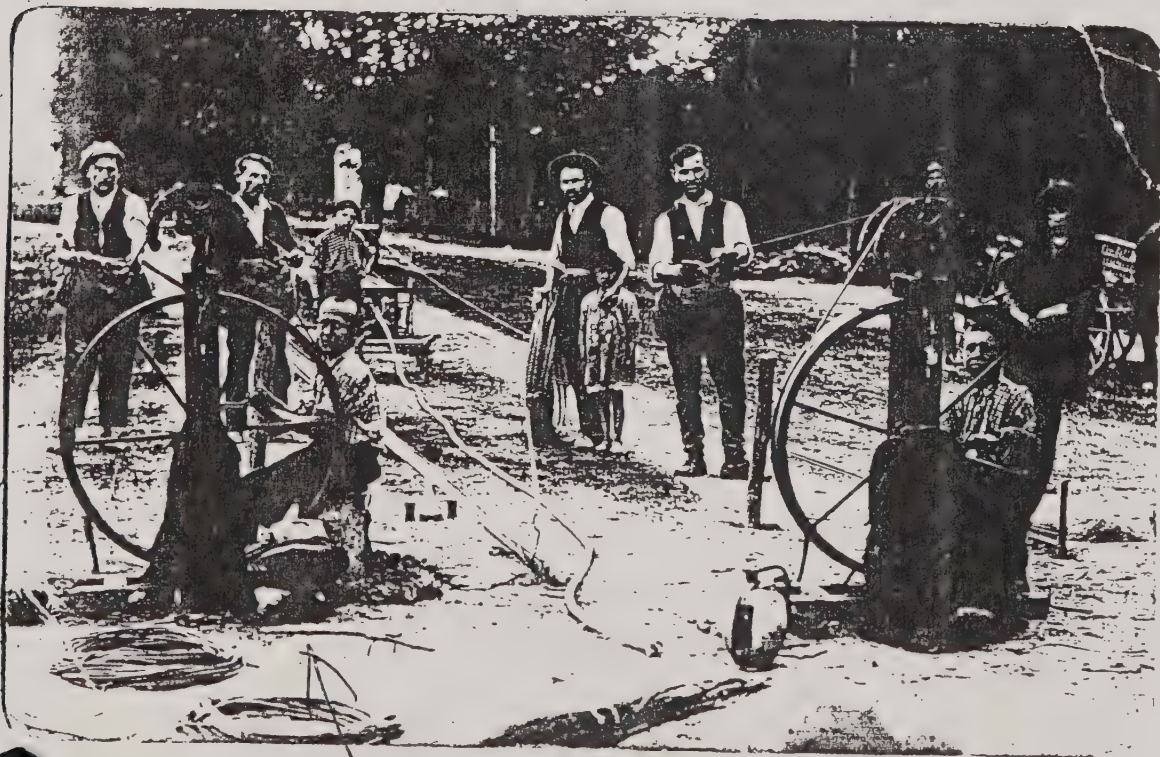
he came to conclusion that he will send us back to the Institute, but this time not to walking but travelling with the train, escorted with the guard.

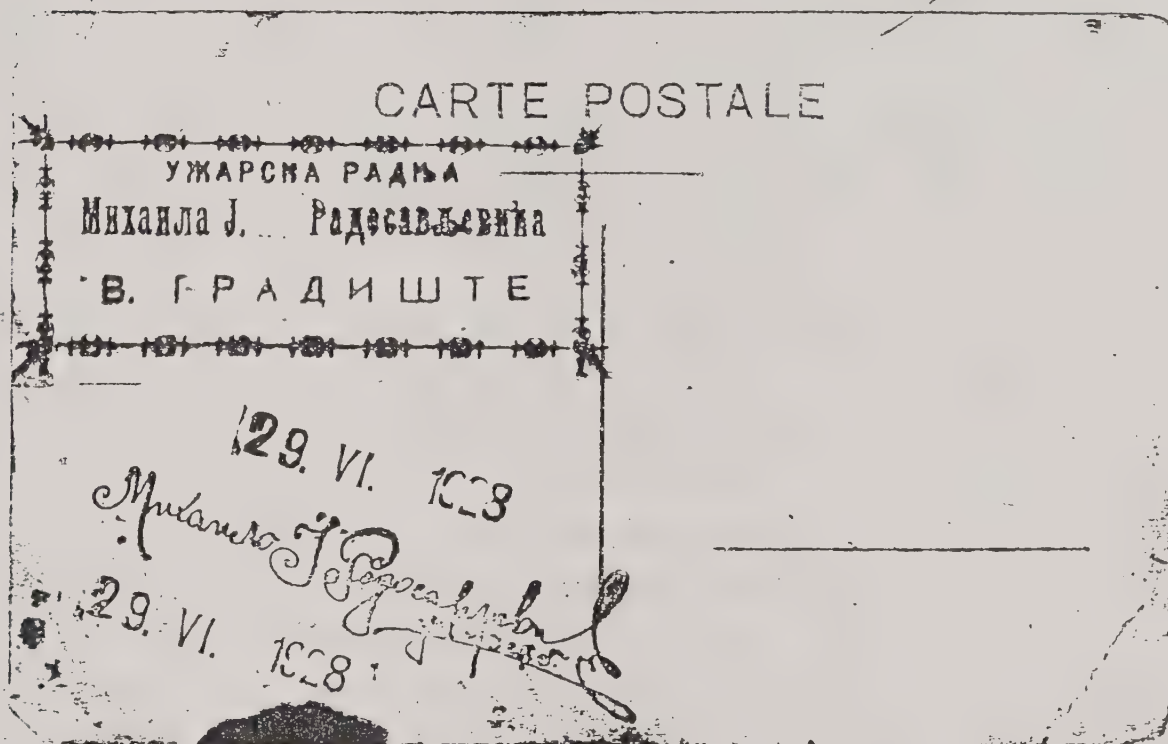
So we arrived back to the Institute in the same day, and our escort handed us over to the management of the Institute. When they see us, they were not angry on us, on the contrary they show very friendly faces, they asked us to explain them the real story; because ; before we arrived back they hear from the bosses about our disappearance. When we finished the story, what they hear till the end with patience, they served us with food and drink, because we was very hungry. We are asked for excuse for the happened, and make them problem, they asked us if we want return to the old bos for continuing the profession, but we answered together NO!; because of bad behaving with us! So we rested in the Institute for short time, when one day arrived from Serbia one person who was looking a kid for learning to make ROP's, the manager invite me in the office, and introduce me that person, who explained that he need somebody who is willing to learn make ROP's, and also can continue his education in evening classes, I answered that I am willing to accept his invitation, not looking and thinking to much for the kind of profession. Because I want go out from the Institute.

So we went the same day on our way to the city Veliko Gradishte (Serbia), where he owned his house and his workshop. On that way we travelled on the river DONAU with passenger ship, on the way I become ill, because I never travelled in winter time with ship. We arrived to his city and his home, it was dark and very cold, he introduced his whole family and rest of the people who were assembling in the home to see the new arrived guest. After a short introducing I went to rest, because I don't feel good and I was very tired.

What happened during the two years of my stay by this new professional person, first his behaving with the personel, there was three more young boys who are learning the profession, they were from Serbia and was also two master's with who we are assigned to work and learn from them the system of the work, we are working every day when it was nice day without raining or snow he made us work very hard for many hours and seven day a week,

29. VI. 1928
Михаилъ Яковлевичъ
Б. ГРАДИШЕ
МИХАИЛА Я. ГРАДИШЕ
УМАРСНА РАМА
ПЛАСТИК
29. VI. 1928
CARTE POSTALE





Age 14- 1928

Apprentice at the Rope making shop of
Mikhailo Radosavljevich in
Veliko Gradishte, Yougoslavia

We had to get up very early in the morning and rush to get to work, no matter what the weather was like hot or cold, rain or snow, we had to work outside the house, because we needed a lot of space to make ropes, we were very well fed, but the boss did not treat us nicely, he was constantly drunk and beating us. We lived in constant fear, eventually we became desperate and decided to run away. I realised that as ORPHANS bereft of parents with nowhere to go, there was no one to complain to about the situation.

Time was passing slowly, and the situation was getting worse, I decided to run away, and not telling anything about my plan to my friends, and not caring what effects this would have on my friends and on my future, the boss was¹ beating me every time I was faulty or not, and he assigned me jobs that I didn't know how to do and that were not my responsibility. I took my punishment with stride because I had a feeling better days are waiting for me somewhere else. For this purpose I put my effort and knowledge into learning the profession and being the best I could at it so that one day I might be able to get a good job. But after a short time, I was forced to run away.

It was early spring in 1929, and the weather was bad, I got up early in the morning, got dressed and left, nobody saw me, I soon arrived at the highway on my way to Belgrade. After a long walking in the snow, I arrived at a small village, very tired, cold and hungry, I started walking in the village and soon came upon an illuminated house which looked very nice I knocked on the door, and after waiting for a few seconds a man opened the door, and asked me what I wanted, Before I answered his question, I bid him good evening, and asked him if I could come in and warm up, his wife asked me if I want a cup of tea, and offered me a seat in their home. After I had the tea, they asked me who I was and where I come from? The people lived with their two small children and their grandmother.

All of them sat down and listened to my story, when I had finished telling my story, they asked me if I want to stay and sleep here, and I gladly accepted their offer.

The next day, they invited me to join them for a good breakfast. During that time the head of the household told me that he is a furrier, and that If I want to I could stay and work

with him. I thought over his proposal and accepted, because I had no other place to go and I had no money.

Time passed by quickly, and before I knew it, it was late spring. One day the head of the household told me that tomorrow morning he is taking me back to the city from where I came, to get authorisation he needed to make me his student. So early morning the next day we took the wagon, with the cow's, because there were no train's or buses. When we arrived to the city of Veliko Gradishte, where I worked, we stoped at the market-place, and I stayed in the wagon, while my boss, went to the office of the authorities, to get the authorisation he needed. At the same time my previous boss came to look at the merchandise that other people were selling and baying, he recognise me and asked what I was doing here?

When I was about to answer his question, my new boss came back and he and my previous boss started to talk about me. When they finished talking, they took me to the police station where I stayed for two day's, and after that they escorted me back to the Institute.

When I arrived at the Institute I explained everything that had happened to me. The people there understood me and they helped me find a new place to learn a profession, and continue my education.

Shortly, the manager of the Institute called me into the office and told me that finally he find a place in the city of Veliki Bechkerek, owned by a Jewish family, for me to work, it was a delly. This new's made me very happy, because now I had a job, and because it was among the Jewish people, and I wanted to keep close relation with the Jewish people. All the time that I have been working, I was surrounded with the people who spoke only the Serbian language, and I slowly began forgetting my native language, Hungarian.

When I arrived to the city of Veliki Bechkerek, I went directly to my new boss-house, I introduced myself, and they accepted me into their family, and fully accepted responsibility for my future, and well being.

17 It was now 1933, and the Holocaust had begun, It was also time fime for me to join the Yugoslav Army, I took it upon mayself to learn everything there was to know in the Army, in case they needed Army knowledge in Palestine (Israel), I could be of assistance.

After I served my time in the Army, I began to be active in the Zionist Movement, and the emigration of people to Palestine. I was travelling all over the Country trying to convince the parents of young Jewish men's and women's, to allow them to send their children to Palestine, before it was too late. But in spite of my advice and effort to persuade them, it was useless, everyone to whom I spoke, replied the same way; You go first, and then we will come! I tryed to comprehend the situation and I understood why many people said no!, After all they had families and properties and they couldn't just pick up and lieve everything behind. Comming to this conclusion, I decided to go on the journey myself.

Therefore, after the second W.W. I dont finde any of my best friend's younth and their families in life, no one! They lost their lives in several concentration camp's, for thise case, I have a short story from the people, who also said; Before many years, when I lived in "Veliki Bechkerek", it was a very big :HURICAN", and on the river of "TISA" who is wide about 500 yard's, it was a pleasure boat, and the hurricane cutch the ship, and the ship start to sink, the people on the board started to jump into the water, and so to save their lives, and between the passengers was also a few people who were salesmen, who are carry busket's with miscellance goods, and are saling on the board of the ship, and one of them told the other; wy you don't jump in the water without the busket and save your life ? He answered; what is worth of my life without my busket, and in tha moment he jump together with his busket and trunk!!!.

So, I decided for the first time after so many torture even alone to set off along all the danger what on the way like that

can happen, and almost without money!....

In September 1939, I was in the city of Sarajevo (Bosnia), after the closing the Jewish town "BETAR", between the mountains of Bosnia, where I was in order of the "BETAR" organization for Jewish youth education in purpose, to prepare them for immigration to Palestine.

When the German Army attacked the "SUDETTE" (Czechoslovakia), Western part of that country, the Yugoslav government ordered for partial mobilization in North-East of Yugoslavia, close to the Hungarian border, where in the case, I was belonged too! I received a message for join the Army immediately, So, I have no other choice, than hand over my duty to other instructors of the movement.

Because my company to which I was belonged was stationed in the city of Subotica, Northern part of Yugoslavia, close the Hungarian border. When I arrived there, I just make report to my commanding officer in the unit for registration. The time was about 15 of September 1939. Because in the company I served us N.C.O, in the first time I have nothing to do till the order in the future, so I have enough time to meet my friends from the movement and talk with them about the situation in the country and also in all Europe..

When I was in the city of Zagreb, in the years of 1938/9, I saw many Jewish emigrants arrived to Yugoslavia from the countries, what the German forces occupied. These people were tortured and beaten, burned alive, and make them cripple, and many of them on the way starving from hungry so, they arrived in that condition to Yugoslav territory, and we the Jewish youth the Betar' welcome them, and demand from the Yugoslav authority permission for them to stay in the country, and supply them with food, clothes, and some money, and were to sleep and warm up, till they have possibility to go away perhaps to Palestine-Erez Israel.

So, I served in the Army about two months, between I meet my oldest brother in the same unit, and one day arrived the time for demobilization, but only part of us, and I was in the first party, so, I asked my Commanding Officer for permission to let go first home my brother before me, because he was married with

a child at home. So, for that my exemplary behaviour, the Commandant give assent, so my brother went home before me, and I rested for some weeks more, but from the information about the Jewish case in Europe, the news what are arrived every day; was very not satisfactory, and every day and night thinking of the Jewish situation, and what can also occur, (happen), so one night "I DRIMED" about the case; WHERE I SAW MYSELF IN THE MIDDLE OF A GROUP OF JEWISH PEOPLE, AND ALL AROUND US WERE STANDING ARMED TO THE TEETH GERMAN SOLDIERS, WITH THEIR MACHINE GUNS, POINTED TO US AND READY EVERY MOMENT TO SHOUT".

In the next morning, when I cam, and I remember about my dream, I started to study it, and so studying a short time about all the situation in the Europe and in Yugoslavia, I came to a CONCLUSION that; I must lieve this Country, fast as possible, without all my best friend's and relatives and the "BETAR MOVEMENT", with direction to Palestine with the word's

" N O W - O R - N E V E R "

NOW

OR

NEVER

BY:

ROSE LEVY

MEETING WITH THE JEWISH PEOPLE (YOUNG)

Because I visited every Sunday afternoon the president of the Jewish Community in the city, who was personally responsible for my education and situation, so I meet in his house many young Jewish people with who I make friendship, and during that time we were very good friend's and so we start to talk about the situation of the Jewish in Yugoslavia, and also in the whole world, and after a short time we start to discuss the case of Palestine (Israel). Between I finished the contract for three years to learn the profession and I finished the Trade school, and I start to work with pay.

During my stay in that city I make a very wide acquaintance around the Jewish residents, and in a very short time I become the leader of the Jewish Youth in that city, The time was in year 1933 when we organized the Youth Jewish organization "BETAR" to whom the central office was in NOVI-SAD, and from where we started receive every kind of pamphlet's and brochure's about the REVISIONIST party, about their work and their task in the Zionist organisation, who's leader was VLADIMIR ZABOTINSKI, and with the task "Establishment of a Jewish land in Palestine where the Jewish people (Nation) will have majority, and prepare the land for general IMMIGRATION of the Jewish people from EUROPE and all the world, and establish a Jewish State. With this ideology we the Jewish Youth started working and giving information for the new friends who was participating our ideology about the settling the Jewish Nation in one land with the name "EREC ISRAEL" on the territory of Palestine where they will have their own GOVERNMENT, with their military forces who will defend the settlers from the enemy. With the ideology we collected (assembled) many Jewish people who was thinking on the same way.

In year 1935 it was organized a grand meeting of the Jewish population in Yugoslavia with the presence of the World President of the REVISIONIST party; Vladimir Jabotinsky in the city of NOVI SAD, where we from Veliki Bečkerek took part. On that meeting we took knowledge of many our friends from all Yugoslavia, who came there for the meeting.

In year 1937 I received order to join the Yugoslav Army, where I served 18 months, where I have chance to learn about the handling every kind of Arms, during my service in the Yugosl. army



Usponena iz Svinjice 1938 I. 15

With Jewish soldiers
in my platoon, 1938, Yugosl.



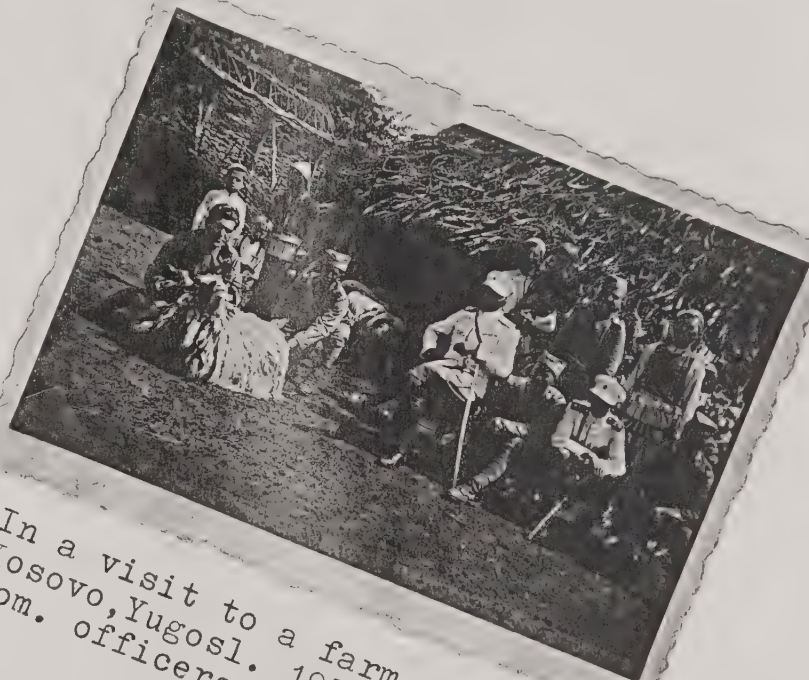
Usponena iz Svinjice, 1938. -

With group of Jewish soldiers
in my platoon. Yugosl. 1938



Usponena iz Svinjice, 15. 1938 god.

In the Yugoslav Army 1938



In a visit to a farm in erie of
Kosovo, Yugosl. 1938 with the
Kom. officers from my Company



Usponena iz Svinjice, 15. 1938 god.

In time of resting, we washed

I received promotion to be a instructor N.C.O. of the Arms, and when I finished serving in the rang of full rang of N.CO The time was when the German military forces occupied the land of SUDETTE, from the Chechoslowakia, and with that act the German military forces start to occupie other country's like Austria and after all Chechoslowakia.

In the case of my emigration to Erec Israel, I was every time ready, only I was waiting for the moment, when I can lieve my friend;s, between I was working in the organization like Shaliah" "BETAR", with the taskto prepare the Jewish people with their younth for general imigration to Erec Israel, but; on my biggest surprise, when I came and talked with the parent's to permit their children to emigrate to Erec Israel was without any serious result, because; every body told me; You go first, and after you, we will comming, When I was thinking about all the case about to emigrate to Israel, I came to the idea; that the people with who I talked, they are RIGHT, because; nobody of the parent's are ready to permit for their children alone to emigrate to the land, for what we must first to fight, and before that we must fight with the English authority's for permit their enter to that land, and after that, the Jewish people who lieved for many years in Yugoslavia, they was equal citizens in till now their country, where they are also born, and they dont fill any pressure from the authorities that they must lieve their belonging like; houses,work shop's and all their bussines, and go to Erec Israel, they was thinking very wrong and very short, because they don't want to see what is happening all arround Yugoslavia, where the Nazis killed and destruct all the Jewish people or they transported them to the K.Z. except who was lukif and in time they disappeared before the German'. Army took them prisonier o kill them only; because they where Jewish.

I must recognize; that my situation was much mor easily, because I was completely alone in that question, I must not ask for permit to travel for Israel, I have two brother's and two sisters, but because we don't lieved together and they was not responsible for me, so I was not under their control, and I



מחנה ב"מ "PALE" וואסלביאה 1939
 חלק 2



קבוצה ב"מ בחדרה "PALE" וואסלביאה 1939



הנה זה

קבוצת הנוער במחנה "פאל" 1939
הנה זה

can make my own decision, so in that case my position was very easy to solve, and because I have't behind my back somebody like father or mother for who I must take care, so I don't succeed in my work, between I took part in helping the Jewish imigrant's who start to arrive from the occupied territories from the German forces, they where running before the German's, to the till now free countries, many of them with brocken part's of their body or burned, in very poor and unfortunate situation, hungry and without any penny in their possession, we helped them to become permission to rest in the city's, to become roff over their tormented head, about food, clothes, and some money, that they have for the time when they rest in that country, because they was ready for continuining their way to Erec Israel, and in that service I took a very activ part, we were organizing in every part of Yugoslavia different programme for assembly money for their need, till they don't lieved the Yugosl. territory on the way to Erec Israel. I remember on this tormented people who was forced to lieve behind them all their property and runn away from the place where they was born and went to the scholl for their education and where also their parent's and grand parent's was born and make their bussines, all their live's, and now! they must live everything in behind and take their tormented body on the insecure future, but only for to save their bitter and naked life's. All that happened in the year of 1938-9, when I received a message from my millitary command to whom I belonged in time of mobilization, to join them, because my command was mobilized in the North part of Yugoslavia; when the German forces occupied Chechoslovakia, so in 1939 in September I joined to the Army like N.C.O. Where I served about two month's, during my service in the reserve army, I continued my work about organizing and assembling the Jewish younth and talked with them about approaching a very dangerous situation, for hteir life like Jewish, so, one day when I awaked in the morning, I remember what I dreamed in that night, and that was; that I was standing in the street with my best friend's, and all around us where German soldiers with their arm's pointed on us and ready every moment to shout! This MEMORY remained in my feeling also today after

Part 4

-17-

so many years passed, and today when I am writing that my memory I feel that all that happened yesterday, but only with the differences that most of my best and very share friend's are not alive! They are all with their families forced to abandon their home's and lieve everything behind and was loaded on the animal trensported wagon's with the direction to the camp's in Germany and Poland, where they were destroyed in the gas shambres or died in every kind of illnesses or starving from hunger or cold (frost).

On that day I promised for mayself; that, when I will be discharged from the Army, I will start to prepare mayself for Imigration to Erec Israel, with the "SLOGAN" "N O W- or N E V E R", because I see over my head very black claud's and that claud's covered all "E U R O P E" .

So one day in end of November 1939, I became the new's, that I am free from the Army service, I was very happy!

I cam back to the city of Zagreb where was the Center of my Organization "B E T A R", and told them; that I decided for Imigration, but on my biggest astonishment, all my friend's was against my resolution for to lieve them, and asked me to continue my work between the Yugoslav Jewish younth where I received a well come and a full gratitude for my work with them, mainwhile I continued my work, but I was redy for start to go on my move on the way. In Zagreb I find a very good friend his name was Moshe Berkovic, he was from Cheshoslovakia, but before many years he came to Yugoslavia and settled in Osijek a city not so far from Zagreb, I told him about my plan, and he was very happy to join me on that way, but he had also a big problem, because he hade a sister and she was against the way, meantime we started asking the necessary document's by the Consulate of "G R E C C E" in Zagreb, but in short time we received a negative answer, that they the Grece authorities prohibited to issue VIZA's for the JEWISH, after we trayed the same by the GRECCE Consulate in BEOGRADE, but on our biggest surprise also from there we received the same answer. Because in advance we make a plan that our way will be through Greece, and there we will try to came to PIREUS, or ATHEN, and from there embarque on the ship (some merchant ship) and so

come to Erec Israel, but after the failure to receive the necessary document's, we changed our plan, so that because we don't have the official permission to cross the Yugosl, frontier, we decided to cross illegal, so we planed to travel to the South Yugosl. till the city of BITOLJ, and from there walking crossing the mountains and the BORDER to Greece. Meantime we have a very hard discussion with our friend's, and also with the sister of my friend, they start to be our enemy, because they don't succeed that we postpone our way, The time was about February 1940, the time was very urgent, because of the situation in Europe, the German's are expounded in every arie, where they once put their legs, so we decided not to listen anybody, and fulfeel our task, it was early in February 1940, we went to the tren station and embarqued, direction Belgrade-Skoplje-Bitolj what was the end station to South Yugosl. border with Greece, where we arrived late evening, from the train station we walked stright to a nearby Hotel where we rented a room for one night. When we rested a short time, we took the map what we prepare for the orientation on the way, and we learn the shortest way to the Yugosl, Greece border, we observe that; all the border are on the high mountain's, and we known; that on the side of the Yugoslav side the Yugoslav border command they are watching very hard the border;s and they are stationed on every 1-2 hundred meter's, so that we known that the way to crossing the border will be very dangerous.

But because we don't want to stop sambody with our plan, so we went to rest over the night, and early morning we get up and because all the bagage was prepared so we went to the street and took the direction stright to the border, it was still dark, how we walked we observ that the snow start to fell and the way was almost covered with the snow like white blanket, because it was very early in the morning, so we dont meet anybody on the way who resided around, so we walked on the side of the high way, silent and absorbed to the case how we will succeed to approach and pass through the frontier what the Yugoslav frontier army wached very strong. After walking about two hrs.

we observe aboard with the attention; that you are in the border area, so we turned our direction to the mountains and we start to climb, but what happened! We start to climb, but from once we hear from all sides of the mountains call's that; you approach the border, and is forbidden that way to approach and that we must turn down the hill and take the right way, but we make that we don't hear the call's and continued to walk (to climb), when the soldiers who was watching the border in that area, they start to come down the hill's and shouting on us to stop: climbing, if not they will shout on us, We see that the situation is very dangerous, we stopped and seated on a ston and awaiting what will happen when the soldiers will arrive, resting on the ston, the soldiers arrived and asked us wy we dont walked on the right way? because they can also kill us on that way what we was used, they told us that they must take-eskort us to the commanding officer on the station, so we came, and with the eskort we arrived to the commanding officer who was seating in his office building, and was woundering who are this people who disturbed them so early morning, when we entered the office we greeting him with good morning and he told us to seat down on the chair, when we rested a bit (little), he asked us who we are and wy we tryed to cross the border not on properly way, we introduced ourselves and explained him all the story with the Greek consulate, and that we have not other choice than try to cross the border ILLEGAL without permit, all our story he was listening with big attention, so when we finished our claim's, he answered us; that is not the legal way, and that he must escort us back to the city from where we come (BITOLJ), so we take his advice and after a short resting and a cup of caffee we turned back with our escort soldier, after all day of walking we arrived to a military frontier station, where we rested for the night, and only the next day we continued for the city. When we arrived back to the city of Bitolj and entered stright to the COURT HOUSE, we came before the JUDGE, whom we explained our case and claim, what for happened all the case about trying to cross the border without permission, after the judge hear our fault, he handed us a law book and told us that we a lone find the punishment for trying crossing the border illegal!

When we opened the law boock we just find the pages where was the clausule for the illegal trying to cross the border so after we learned and consulted between us, we decided for the paragraf, what say; 8-30 day inprisoning the person who tryed to cross the border without permission, so we decided to take the first paragraf of (8) days, so we went to the judge and handed over that boock with remark that we de cided to take the punishment of 8 day, he start to laugh and told us that we are very clever, and so he handed us over to a police person and told him that he escort us to the stat prison with the letter what he gives him.

When we entered the prison building, that was a very small house, after we rested a time, we contacted the city's Jewish community, they are the same day visited us, and bring us a fresh food, and promissed that they were inform our organiza-tion Betar, for our arest place.

Before they went home, they bring us some food what they con-tinued to make every day during the time of eight day's what we were in the prison, before we finished our punishment, we send to the Jewish community in Bitolj a very thankful for their helo. When we finished our prison time, the authority wanted send us home where every body of us was born; me to Stara Kanjiza and my friend to OSIJEK, because he was registered there, but only from district to district, what on our calculation must take more than one mounth, because we dont wanted lossing time so we turned to the JUDGE, and asked permission, that the eskort take us stright to BEOGRAD without brecking the way and than we will pay for all of us together with the escort the ticket for the train. We was very happy when the JUDGE told us that he permit our re comandation route, so we can be in Beograd already the next day, so; we went to the train station and board the train and soon we were on our way direction Beograd, only we don't succeeded to persuade the Judge, that he permit the escort to take us direct to our end station, because we was afraid from the staying in the Police station of Beograd, because we hear that there the authorities behave very bad with the people under their hand's, everybody was shaking when he hear about police station of Beograd!.



But because on the way we don't know that in Beograd they will take us apart, so we don't talk on the way to Beograd about our new plan, and it was very bad, because when we arrived to Beograd in the police station they took us apart without that we can talk one to the other, and me they escorted to Stara Kanjiza first, and my friend to Osijek, but only from one district to the other, so for me the end station was Stara Kanjiza and that way held a full one week.

When I arrived to Stara Kanjiza the escort police handed me over to the city authorities to the police commissioner, who when he took knowledge about what is the case, he just freed me, because I was not a criminal person.

When I came out from the police station, I started to think what to do!

Meanwhile I went to my friend who lived in that city, and explained him my problem; After listenning to me, he advised me to travel to Belgrade and visit Dr. Green, a lawyer, and ask him to get me a visa for Turkey and a transit visa for Bulgatia, because my passport was valide only until March 25, 1940, and it was already March 10. It had to be done very fast so I could move on my journey i n time, otherwise the Yugoslav authorities would invalidate my passport as it was "WAR TIME". I did as he advised me, and then returned to Stara Kanjiza for the exit visa from the Yugoslav authorities, because without it no one could leave the country.

It was March 16, when I finished all the necessary preparations regarding my document's and I had four days left for resting. I visited some of my friend's and asked for help with money for the trip. I was happy, because they helped me. I was very sorry I could not co ntact my good friend, because of lack of time, and I felt pain i n my heart because I couldn't take him with me!..

On March 21, 1940 I got my express train ticket on the Paris-Belgrade- Istanbul line and exactly on 20/21 of March I was on my journey to the Bolgarian border, where I crossed the border at 10/a.m. After border control the train moved toward Sofia, the Capital of Bulgaria where we arrived at 12 noon. Here the train stopped for 2 hrs; so, I planed to contact my friend's from the "BETAR" movement, I thought they might give me some advice for the continuatin of the trip, they came to the station, I asked them; wether it would be better for me to join a group of Imigrant's on their way to Palestine? But they told me, I was better off alone, we took leave of each other and the train continued on its way toward the Turkish border.

The next day early in the afternoon I arrived at Istanbul after crossing the Bosforus into "ASIA".

I looked forward to meeting with Jewish Organization and getting information regarding the situation with Immigration from Turkey, or about the immigrant's crossing the Turkish territory in this time. I thought perhaps they could help me continue my journey. But after 3-4 days, I realized it would be useless to continue my stay in the city, because I received information from the Jewish Societies, that in a short time they have not in the view any Jewish groups to cross the Country on the way to Palestine. So I decided to continue. I studied a map and started toward the Turkish-Syrian border with the hope that perhaps the French Embassy in the city of "ANTAQUE" what is the end station of the train on my way to Syria, permit me to cross the Turkish-Syrian border.

On my last day in Istanbul, while I was feeding the pigeons in the square, I noticed, in a coffee shop opposite, a group of people sitting around a table, they recognized that I am a tourist, and asked me to join them for coffee. They asked me about the life in Yugoslavia, the people etc; and how they feel now in the time of the War in Europe? I explained how hard the time were and how nervous are the people because of the WAR, what are everyday closer and closer, and nobody knows what the tomorrow will bring, these people in Turkey did not seem to be nervous because of the WAR in Europe. When I started talking with them I explained them, that I am traveling to Palestine, and that I am Jewish, some of them also talked the German language, so for me it was much easily to talk with, and so, some of them told me that he was in the Turkish Army and he was in Palestine in the year of 1915/6 before the English Army came to the Middle East, and before I left them, they all wishes me a very nice trip.

On the next day before leaving the hotel, I studied my map and decided to continue my journey toward Adana-Alexandrette-(Antioch), Antaque, This city was the end station on the Turkish border on the South-East side of the country.

I bought a ticket and boarded the train wagon, where I meet a person also traveling in the same direction with his son. They were from Tripoli in Syria. We spoke in a mixture of language some French-German, and some hand-language, he was a kind Arab.

he explain me that he is a Christian Arab, he is married and had 6 children; 4 son's and 2 daughter's, the child who was with him, he was the young'st of them, he was about 4 year old, and the others were in the school, he told me that he is a shop keeper (grossery), and that time when he is on trip, his brother managed the bussines, and he was on the visit by his sister in Istanbul. He told me that he own a nice house in Tripoly(Syria), and in that occasion he invited me to visit his house when I will be in Syria, and also told me that he had a brother here in Turkey closs to the city of Antioche, and he promised; that he will take me to him, and he will also show me the brother's orchard of oranges.

We spent most of our time talking and did not feel the time go by. The train stoped in the station of Mersin, a city on the Northern side of the Mediteranean sea. While looking toward the sea from my window, an idea entered my mind, perhaps I could disenbark and find a small boat and try to approach the Pales-tinean coast through the sea, But the idea never materialized, and the train continued its way. We arrived at Alexandrette at midnight, my Arab friend toock a cab and directed it toward Antioche, 35 mil. away.

We arrived at Antioche (Antakia) after midnight and went to a hotel to rest. I woke up after 3 p/m; and went for a walk in the city with my Arab friend, because he know's the city and could show me some interesting places.

This city belonged before 1936 to the Syrian Government, and had a population of 77.150. It was a comercial city. The Orontes River was about 7 miles from the city, Seleucus, the son of Antiochia founded the city at around 300 b.c.... It served as the Syrian Capital.

The City of Antioche

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One evening that was about on April 2 1940, my Turk friend invited me for a dinner in a Turkish restaurant where the music was too noisy, that you can't just imagine, because we European people we are unaccustomed for too much noises, but in that country it is the system. After a good dinner we took a long walk till late in the night, because I wanted learn a little about the night life in this Country and city.

After the walk we returned to our hotel for rest, it was now a few days before Easter Holiday, so, next day I took a walk to the French Consulate in the city, and asked for a permit visa for entry to Syria. Because the French Government govern the Country of Syria, and because of the Holiday of Easter, they told me that I must come back after 15 of April 1940.

I am sorry for myself, but here I make my biggest and fatal mistake, because, when I visited the Consulate, after the holiday, I told the clerk; that I have some friend's in Byrouth (Lebanon) and I think that he controls if I told him the true story?.

In the time of Holiday, my Turk friend invited me to go with him to his relatives, who own a small farm not so far, so I give my consent.

The next day we took the bus and travelled to the farm, the family were surprised when we arrived, but they were very kindly, the old man on the farm he spoke a little German, so I can talk with him, it was very interesting, that all time I stayed there they were sure that I am a "Journalist", and therefore, they asked me not to write anything about their life.

They have a orchard of oranges, so I was the first time in my life in a orchard like that, so they served me everyday fresh orange juice,

I rested there several days, and returned to the city. It was after Holiday, so I visited the Consulate with hope, that I will receive the visa. But they just told me that the Consul Rejected my application. I was sure they thought I was lying to them, that I have relatives in Byrouth, and also the influence of the WAR!

✓ So after this failure, I have no other choice than to search some other way to cross the border and enter the Syrian Territory. Also I received a call from the city's authority in Anta-que, that I must live the Turkish territory, because my permis-sion passed the time, (it was for one month.)

So I was in double trouble, in very bad situation, because my money was also almost gone and I had no other option than looking for some place where I can find Jewish people, and ask them for help. But, before I start looking for Jewish people who lived here, I took the map perhaps I find some way close to the sea-shore and find some boat and that way I can continue my tourney. For that purpose I see on the map, not so far from this city, on the seashore, a small village. The next day I took the bus and travelled to this village. When I arrived I walked down to the seashore, but how I walked, After me are coming hundred's of children, and they are following me all the way. I was thinking that perhaps this kids never saw a stranger in their life.

When I cam to the seashore, I find there only a few boat's, very-very old and all broken. Because I dont speak Turkish, I can't talk wit the children, and ask them perhaps they know some boat that I can rent.

After unsuccessful looking and trying, I returned to the vil-lage, because it was fall the dark. I start looking where to stay over the night. I find a old haus and asked if they know some place. They answered that they have a small room, and I can have that. They showed me, upstars a very small place, build from wood, like a case (box), inside a wooden bed and a little-bit stinked, but no choice, I must have samthing over my head. At midnight I hear somebody coming up the lader and stop before the door, and start to slam. I asked who is, he tell me the po-lice, I opened the door and he told me; "Please your passport". I take out and present him, I dont know if he know's to read or not, but after two minute he hand me over back and wished me good night and left.

I think that I was the first visitor in this village, perhaps in two hundreds years! How this village exist!
Rest of this night I don't asleep, so in the morning I cam down to the street and walked to the station where the bus station

was,

that I go back to the city.

When I came to the city, I start to study; what I can do? and how I can solve the very bad problem, if I have money, than it is not a big problem, but I have only my last ten (10) Turkish lira, so in my trouble, I decided go to the down-town, where I was thinking that I can find Jewish population and they can help me? It was very bad, that I don't contact them before I went to the Consulate, and I am sure, that they would help me! When I came in the very narrow street's, really I find som of them, I enter in the first of the stories and stright to the ovner, I told him that I am Jewish from Yugoslavia, and I am on the way to Palestine, but I am in trouble, because I have no money, and I was by the French Consul for the visa, but he turned down, so I have no other choice, than to try to find somebody who was ready to take me over the border to Syria teritory. And also that from the authorities I have the warning that, I must leave the Country, because my permit is passed!.

This person understood me, I talked with in German language, and he told me that in a short time if I come back, he will find for me somebody from the Turkish resident's, but I told him; that I have only the last 7 (seven) Turkish lira, so that he must do for me for this money. That happen about noon so, that I come back about 6 p.m. together with my bagage, and I was ready to move.

The time was samthing after 6 p.m; when I arrived, this man was waithing for me, so I took the bagage and we start on the way, beetwen fall the dark and we walked without that somebody see us. I must recognize, that among many of my succees, I have on this way also failure, the first was; when I was lying to the rrench Consul in Antiochia, second mistek was when I prepared my kit beg, I took a peace of the map's and I cut out a part of the Lebanon territory, from Byrouth and all along the seashore to Palestine, and I put it in the sleeves of my coat, and thise act bring me so many troubles and danger on my tourney, and that bring me in very dangerous situation.

Continuining the way, we lieve the city, and start to walk through the field's, till we arrived to a small village what we outflanked, and after we start to climb on the mountains

It fall the dark and all the way he was walking before me, first because he know's the way, and secondly if maybe come samthing on in our way, that he can give me a signal for caution.

I wasn't afraid, because I was in 26 of my age, young very health and very good build in body, very strong, after the military training and service in the Yugoslav Army, (18 mount's), and that was all over, the hard wish to arrive to Palestine, and fighting for a free Jewish home-land, and because of this belief I started on this way!

So we walked on the side of the mountain, and all the way we don't meet any person, in the very dark nighth we arrived to a village, and before a house we stoped, after he knocked on the door, between he give me signal that I stay on the side of the wall, I must remark that we can't talk, because we don't know's the same language, so all the way we talked only with hands. After a few minute we hear that somebody cam to the door, when he was by, he asked on Arabic who is there? My escort answered samthing on Arabic that I don't understood, than he oppened the door and my escort enter in the house, but after a few minutes he returned to me and took my hand, we enter to the house, they took me to a separate room and they brought a lamp with them, because they in the village don's have electricity, this room was in a separate building, not together with the building where are s leeoing all the family, so, I enter the room I put down my kit-bag, and they show me a ladder and make a signal that I climb on the ladder where is a room for me, where I can rest. After that they brought me a mug milk and a piace of pita, (Arab bread), and till I drink the milk they are seating closs to me, and after that they went down and wished me good night.

When I left alone, I put myself on the matress and so lying. I start thinking about the yesterday and the future, so I asleep.

Next day when I awake, it was the sunshine very high, and the date was 21 of April 1940, I hear from downstars voice of the waives and the children, they are moving around the house, but I don't saw them. After when I get up, my escort with his friend from the house, brought me a cup of cooffee, a peace of pita with cheese and boiled egg for breakfast, and that was also the lunch. They rested with me a few minute, and after they

leaved me alone for rest of the day.

The habit of the Arab nation is that they never brings somebody stranger in their house, before they dont separate their waives so that never can happen that a stranger cam in contact with the waives from the house, and also they never serve the guest in the house if he is a stranger not Arab!(male). Before fall the dark, my escort cam to me, and told me that only tomorow we can continuing the way.

6 After that ne brought me again samthing to eat, and wished me good night.

That night I was more quit and asleep rapidly. Next day I awake enough early morning, after that they bring me the breakfast, black coffee, pita, egg, cheese and olives, what they have enough in the house, all that food they have not to buy, because that all they have at home, growing around the house and they made themselves, and than,my escort with his friend rested with me all rest of the day, we eat together also, ans so afternoon he give me the signal for be ready to move. About 8 p/m. we leave the house, outside was very dark so, nobody from the village can't see us. These village was on the border, for that now we walked with more caution! and also he preper his gun (pistol) what I saw by him the first time of our way, he explained me that because we are now on the border, if he gives me the signal, I must promptly seat down and be quit, till he chek the situation.

After about 2 hrs. walking, we stoped because we hear very closs to us from the mountains what was next to our, where we walked, the patrol, they are crossing the mountains and are looking for people who are smugling (black market) on the borders, that happen on the Syrian-Turkish border, but they don't saw us, so the danger is over and we continued the way. Early morning we arrived on the mountain to a small farm, this farm on the side of Syria, so we cross the Turkish-Syrian border without some serious occurence. When we arrived to the house of the farm, he told me that I wait outside, so he enter the house, and after a few minute he return with his relatives who lived here, and let me know him, and he told me, he will be my escort for farther way.

The people of this house where very kindly to me, and they brought me also samthing to eat and drink, so I was there till early afternoon,

when my new friend escort told me, be ready for walk, and he give me that I put on my head a "FEZ" (a felt cup usually of a red color), having the shape of a truncated cone, ornamented with a long black tassel, formerly the National headdress of the Turk's; named after the city of "FEZ" MAROCCO", and so dressed we start to walk down the mountains through the vineyards, because the farm was a vinegrower, after about 2 hrs. walking, we arrived to the high way where the busses driving through, $\frac{1}{2}$ and we stop by ste station, after a few minute the buss arrived, he stop and we enter in, my escort payed for me too, the bus were ful, and so we have not place to seat down, the people in the bus asked me samthing, what I don't know? because I don't understand their language, but my escort just answered them.

After a half a hrs, ride we arrived to a small city, when we came before the entrance to the city, I saw on the side of the way a big stone, and on that was a signal with direction to city of "Haleppo" 100 km. and with the name of this city; "DJISR EL SOUGOR".

" THE CITY OF DJISR EL SOUGOR "

This city is a 22.000 population, and belong to Syria, and lies not far from the Eastern end of the Mediteranian sea; in the mountains erie of "JABAL an NOSAYRUAH", after we arrived to the city, in the center, where was many shops and restaurant's, the bus stoped and the people get out from the bus, I was with my escort the last who get out from the bus, when we get out to the street, my escort lead me to a restaurant what was across the street, but how we crossed the street I remark; that the people are looking after us, so, because my escort left me alone, I seat down and was looking all around, when I at once observed two police man who are entering in the restaurant and they pay attention to me! and in the moment I was sure, that when they aproaching me, and I was not surprised when they stoped next to my table, and asked me who I am? and where from I came? they saw that I am a stranger, because I was dressed like European turist, with my kit-bag, and I think; that somebody from the passangers in the bus, they send them after me, so, after this question I hand them over my passport, I was very cold and I din't show them nervousness, they oppened the pages of the passport and looked it, but they don't finded for what they are looking,

they was looking (searching) the stamp from the crossing the border station! They asked me how I crossed the border? I told them; that I have the permit in the passport, and I took to show them, that I am right! so, I oppened the passport where was remarked; that I can take permit (visas) also for this country, but I have not to much luck! between that time, enter my escort and he took part in our discussion, because the day was Sunday; so they can't take me to the Gandarme Commandant of the city, so, they agree; that I stay over the night with my escort in the Hotel, and that, tomorrow on Monday I must appear before the city Gandarmerie Commandant, so, after that we eat dinner and after a short time we went to our room to rest during the night.

That night was for me samthing terrible; I can't asleep, because I was all the time thinking what to do ? and how to solve the problem in what I fall in, in my mistake! because this time I was sure that I will have big trouble! Also I was thinking how to get up, and dress myself in secrecy and go out from the hotel and disapear from this city, with direction Bayrouth, about 300/km. to south! But therefore I was not capable, because I have not money for this long way, and I have not Arab clothes, so my desertion will be in jeopardy. So, just in the early morning I throw away this plan, and I decided to wait till morning, and what can happen? I know that they will not kill me!...

In the morning we get up, we went down to eat breakfast, and about 9 a/m. we together with my escort went to the Commandant of the city, my escort hand me over and he disapeared, I rested alone with the French Commandant in his office. He was a officer from the French Army, and because this time the French Government governed the rule on this territory (Mandat from 1920 till 1946), when Syria get their Independence.

The officer took my passport and start looking it, I started to tell him; that is everything normal, but he was thinking different, he saw that I have not vise for enter the territory of this country! and between he asked me questions, he give order to the police guard who was standing beside me, to take a look in my kit-bag; he took out of the room were he was looking and after a short time he came back, and in his hand with a peace of the map what I put in the sleeves of my coat, and he showed to the

officer, and explained him; that he find that in the sleeves of my coat, when he saw the peaces of the map; between I tra-
yed explain; that I took that because that I have samthing how to came to Palestine, because I am Jewish and my goal is that I reach this country. But he don't want to hear me, and he give order to me to take down all my clothes completely, and so they are searching on my body if I have more samthing to hiding; some kind of document's? When he saw that I have nothing, he aproved me to dress up again.

After that all happen, they dont asked me nothing more, only the officer took the telephone and start ringing all around the country, because he was sure; that he catch a big "SPY"! What he talked in the phone I don't understand, because he was talking in French language, after that he give the order to the guard to escort me to the jail, what was in the same building, where I rested for two more days.

During this days nothing happen, and nobody visit me and nobody asked me about my pressent in this country and what for!

The third day in the morning they took me out from the jail, and hand me over to other five French police (gandarme), who were riding on horseback with their machinguns, and there was 4 more prisoniers; Arabs; After the ceremony of handing over us to the new escort's, they took us on the way direction to "HALEPO"; till the guards are riding on the horses, we walked all the way.

We walked 3 days, every day they arranged so; that we arrive to some of the places, where they have on the way police station and they hand us over for the night, and after in the morning we continued the way.

All this stationen were very dirty and very smells from the Arabs who are there in the prison, who know's how long? And they were full with lousy, amd in all the buildings was without windows, all the time we arrived in one of this prison's, I took just the place close to the door, so that I have enough air, for the food nobody take care, the Arabs they took with them, but for me nobody cared so, sometimes the Arab's give me some oranges, because other their food I don't eat! The way was about 100 km. so we make the was in tree day's, amd all the way we are walking on the side of the high way, and we meet many time's

with caravan's, with their consignment, and with their escort's "BEDUINS" who are traveling from Damaskus-Halepo, or Halepo Bayrouth-Damasek, they don't pay attention to us, on the way we stopped by some Arab restaurant where they are cooking some kind of meat, that was full with flies, and are stinking, because they have not refrigerator with ice, that meat was from lambs, the flies were flying all over the food and they are eating that! Also when we stopped, the Arab prisoners start to dance their famous "DAPKA" dance, that is their favorite dance, they call me too, but I refused, because I was not in this situation that I have mood for that!

So, after three days of walking in the desert of Syria, we arrived to "HALEPO", from long distance we observe the big and famous Syrian "Fortress Citadella", that was the biggest and highest building in all area, but that was the Prison of Halepo, with about 5.000 mostly Arab local prisoners.

About the Arab women's;

How I know and saw in all the occasions of my present in that country, first I was 3 months in the prison of Halepo where was about 5.000 Arab male prisoners and are no women; also not in separate prison, I think that between the Arab population we can't find women's criminals or something like that for that, also in other places like Lebanon or Palestine, I never hear about prison where are Arab women's in the prison's except in Palestine where the Arab women's take active action in the Arab-Jewish fighting and where the British authorities arrested them also like the other people, when the British are ruled the country.

About the children; they have many of them because their faith don't permit them to make abortion....

CHAPTER 24

HALEPPO THE CITY

This city with his almost one million population, second large city after "DAMASCUS", with 1,200.000 inhabitants. On the way to Aleppo we meet many Arab Beduin's, who were riding on their Camel's, some of them coming from the city and some of them going to the city with their goods on the camel's, and they rided on the side of the high way, because they don't liked very much to meet with the French Gandarmerie, they "HATED" them! They Hated the French authorities, because they ruled their country, and they are all Arab population against the European ruling system.

Here and in all Arab countries the people liked their free life, without that somebody involve in their life and busines and also because this Arab population mostly the Beduins; they traveled through the desert many hundreds of miles, and are smuggling all over the countries drug's (opium, hashish and arm's) and that bring them a very high income, and the French authorities are persuit them, and whom they catch, they inprisoned them for many years without to condemn them.

So we arrived closs to the Citadel (a fortress), before we enter the city, we surrounded the Citadel and so enter the city. Or escort brought me to a boulding with some offices, and they handed me over to the people who worked there, they were not in uniform, I think they were from the French Ineligence Service, what thet call "SURETTE GENERALE", like the F.B.I.

They put me in a room without that they closed the door, and without guard's, but also dont worry for the food for me, So in the first day they don't asked me nothing. I rested in this room all rest of the day, and they dont asked me any question!. So, about; who I am and e.c.t..... only before the dark they transferred me over to the city small jail, where during the night the city police brought in about 10 more people "drunkard"'s who they seized on the street's, and they were all the night very noissy, so, I cant thinking about to asleep, but there was also nothing on what you can put your head, only if you want laying on the empty floor without madaces, that is right, better was so than,

with the madraces, because all the people whom they brought over the night, they were full with "LOUSES" so, that all the night they are "SCRATCHING" and I was afraid that I take some of them.

Next day about 8 a/m. the same person took me back to the same place where I was day before, so happen every day in evening in the small jail, and in the morning they picked me up and brought me back to the office building.

0 The third day somebody from the personal called me and asked a few questions, but without any connection about my case, we talked in German language, this time I don't think about to run away, because I don't wanted to give them a point, that they can think that I am a ^R true "SPY"!.

So, after five day's they escorted me without any more question's to the "CENTRAL LARGE PRISON", where they are holding about 5.000 prisoners, and many of them without trial. When I enter the prison building, the guard take a look in my kit-bag, and after they lead me to the room what they were determinated for me.

When I crossed the door, we arrived in the yard, and only after we arrived to the room where I meet more, about 30 prisoners, all from Europe, there were also 2 older person's, they were from Ukraina, they were wandering all around the world, and now in the WAR time, they arrived to Syria, where the authorities arrested them, because they was also without permit to enter the country, also were from Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkie, Palestine and Poland. We were not in the rooms together with the other Arab prisoners.

THE LIFE IN THE PRISON OF HALEPPO

In our room was not madraces, so we were laying on the empty floor (cement), when we get up in the morning, we have no (apel) to count the insider's, so that we can sleep also all the day, and also during the day nobody care about us, only in the morning the guard when they oppen the door's they counted us how we are laying on the floor, and after they let the dood's oppen and we can walking all around the prison territory.

In the morning we have nothing for breakfast, also no lunch, only for evening before the dark, they bring for us; pita,reis, (burgul) with sauer-milk and full (a kind of beans).

I don't eat that kind of food, and for that I was very hungry, but I have not other choice, so slowly I accustomed. For the prisoners from the country, that kind of food was not bad, because also in their life at home they don't eat better! They eat the same food. In evening they closed the door's of the room's at 9 p/m. In the room's where lived the Arab prisoners, their room's were more comfortable, and more nice, because for them was permitted to bring from their home's mattresses stuffed with cotton, because the country of Syria was very rich with cotton's, so they stuffed also the mattresses with cotton's, they put also on the walls all around in the room's rugs, what they produced in the country, mostly hand work, after that they have family visiting day; every Friday, and so the family brought them every week a full baskets with every kind of food.

They were about 25 person in the room, and in time of lunch they all from the room put all the food together on the floor, and for that occasion they spread out a nice carpet, and on that they put the dishes with the food, after that they seat down all around and start to eat with their fingers, because; that is their habit, and with crossed legs, and so they are eating without; forks, knives and spoons.

I create friendship with a few people so, sometimes they invited me to join them, they every time divided the food so; that they have enough for all week, till they received a new consignment next week...

There were also rooms in backyards, and there I find rooms, where the prisoners are working; they are weaving textile from cotton, and silk, they produced many kind of hand works; like socks, gloves, wallets, hand-bags and many other things, the ready products they handed over to the prison management, they send to the market and the money what they received for, they payed for the material, and the rest kepted for the workers who made this product, so that they have the money when they will be free from the prison or, they handed over to their family for living at home.

So many of them worked day after day, and for this people wasn't seriously hard to hold out the prison time. But it was one thing very dangerous; the prison wasn't enough clean, because it was many "LOUSES"; everybody was full with them!

and we can't do anything to prevent us from them. I wonder myself, how the people don't get "TYPHUS"!, If I saw million, that is not a word, the people were lying on the floor on the sun, than you can see how the LOUSES cam out and they climbed over the body's, and on the clothes, it was terrible also to looking!

One day I get know one of the guard's, he spook a little Hebrew, I supposed he was a Jewish, he saw that I never buy samthing through the guard's from the office-shop in the prison yard's, so he told me; why you (like me) don't write a letter to the Jewish Community in the city of Haleppo, perhaps they can help you, and send you some money, that you have for your expences.

So one day I decided to write to the Jewish Community, and I handed over to the guard for delivery, and what happened?, after a few days he brought me 5 lira Syria. what the Community send for me, that was enough for some weeks, so that I wasn't without money, and from that day I have opportunity to buy every day one bucket of hot water for wash mayself and also my clothes and keep mayself clean for perhaps 1 hrs; because after that time the "LOUSES" were returning again back...

The ~~d~~ate was 14 of June 1940, when before evening the guard make the inspection in the room's (we were now about 50 person's in the room), all from Europe, and in this occasion the guard told us; that tomorow morning you will move, and for that we must pack our bagage, till that time we were in this prison three-months, without any question or samthing like that, so that for this news we were very happy, only one things was bothering us that we don't know's and nobody tell us where we were transported? So, the next day everybody from our room was ready for moving, they took us out from the jail yard, and in the yard before the prison offices we must make two lines, each line about 25 people, after that the gusrd took a long chain, but before they put on our left hands "FETTERS", and then they pull through the chain so, that all 25 man were tied together and after that we must climb on the track's without FOOD and WATER. We move through the city, but because the track's were in back side also closed so, we dont saw in what direction we are travelling.

It was very hot day and every minute we feel that is more and

hot, so that a few of us can estimate about to which direction we are travelling.

During the way nobody from us are talking, the escort with their machinegun's are seated without talking, and sometimes they also were asleep, but because we were very strong tied and for that they don't afraid that we will run away, so everybody was worried for the next step!

About noon, the track's stoped and they gave us the order to stepdown, we have the order that who want* to make piss or samthing else; so how we are standing tied, everybody make wat he must to do; and than we saw that we are in the middle of the desert somewhere, all around us we dont saw any houses, trees or some lively being, everybody was very tired and hungry, and about the thirst I can't explain our feeling, but we know's that nobody can help us! and we must be with patience till we arrive to end destination, where will that be? nobody from us don't know's, and the escort they have the order not to talk with us!

After a half hrs, our escort gave us the order to climb up to the track's and so after a short time the track's moved ahead, where will be this ahead?... we don't know's, and also if somebody tell us; also we can't know's because we don't know's the erie, and we were very tired, so we can't make orientation from the inside the track's, only we feel that is more and more hot, and also the way where we are crossing was not like here in the U.S.A; that was a desert way and the track's are jumping up and down, and without water and food and the last; that the people don't know's when and where they will stop with us?....

But for everything ist ones end; so we arrived in a small city in the desert about 500 k/m/. from Haleppo, to East almost till the border of Iraq! The track's start to drive on the asphalt way and we fell that we are close to some city, and after a few minute we feel that the trak's make a left turn and enter through a gate and stoped. The escort jump down and than they give us the order to jump also down with the "FETTERS" on the hands and "CHAINS" they escorted us like the very dangerous criminals, after that our escort took down the "CHAINS", so that after about 12 hrs. we were free from our escort's and the "CHAINS", but before that they hand us over to the authorities of that place, the place was

a military camp (base) with many barack's and soldiers, there was a French high Command officer like (Commandant) and a few hundred's of soldiers mostly from the French colonies; like Africa, Senegal..... When we arrived they give us the military uniform's and other clothes...

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CHAPTER Q
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6 It was 15 of Juny 1940, they show us the barack's were we have to sleep and also they gave us two cowers (blankets), while it was the dinner time, so they gave us also for everybody dishes and so we get the food after three months of lossing our freedom, first time we eat some hot food, after the dinner we all went to wash ourself and rest, because we were very tired, that nobody have a mod to ask were we are? I think everybody asleep very fast. The next day when we get up about 5 a/m. the sun was very high and because that time was the awake time like in the army. After that we make ready our bed's, we went to wash our-self and than went for breakfast, and after all that at 7 a/m. was the rull call, we have the order that in the morning we must dress the clothes what they give us, that was a white-gray colour, that was the uniform for everyday work, because; from that time and day's they make from us a group of Foreign workers, so they gave us also a "RIBON" with inscription of three letters "C.T.E." COMPANY TRAVELER ENTRANGER; thats mean; Foreign Workers Unit! So, that in the first three day's we dont worked nothing, except; two days before and afternoon we all are escorted to the city in this uniform, so that; the population let's them know about us, that we exist, and if somebody from us try to escape (run away), they can recognise and catch us, and in that case they will receive 5 lira Syria, that was a lot of money, so the Command make everyday everything how they can prevent us from any movement for to be free!..

After three days, they took us under escort of the soldiers to do every kind of work's, like cut the grass about 10 km. from the camp, clining the Air-port in the village of Abu-Camal, close to the border of Ieaq, about 120 km; but everyday we cam back to the camp for dinner, the time was about 5 p/m; and after that time we become free, so we can walk to the city. The name of the city was; "DAYREAZ-ZAWR", the population about 105.000, all Arab Beduin's, and was closs to the river "EUPHRATES", in middle of the desert of "JABAL BISHRY", and it was about 120 km; West of the Iraq border and also about 500 km. North through the desert from Syrian Capital "DAMASEK"

After 5 p/m.; we were walking every day free to the city and I was looking for; if there I could find some Jewish Resident's who perhaps can help me; and be able to help me to escape from this place and cam to Palestine, in time of a few days I make aquitance with the Jewish resident's, it was only a few of them; but they were all very afraid to do samthing about to help me, because the French Government was very strong and dangerous in that case, and they also leaved in fear! When I was in the city; I try to get a map in the shop's; but without success, and I try also to get by my friends Jewish people, by their children who were going to the school, but under any circumstances, I wanted to get a map, that I can make orientation for myself, so that I know where I am! and how to escape from here and in which direction!....

No chance!... but one day how I walked from the camp to the city, I remark on the way a high ston; and on that ston was the sign with the direction; 500 km. to Damaskus, via desert; and 1.100 km. to Byrouth via Haleppo, when I saw that; I was very joyful, because now from that day I can try to make some program for escape!....

One day, when we were on the way to work outside the camp; to cut the grass, all day I was thinking only how I can run away, we were about 10 km. West from the camp on the road to Haleppo, it was very hot (warm) about 50 C. and we worked closs to the river of "EUPHRATE", and that day I decided to make the first step; and try to escape, so; early afternoon I was alone and a little far from other people (workers), and guards, I selected a place between the grass what was high about 3-4 feet, so I decided before we must be together for be ready go back to camp, to hide myself till the guard's don't return to camp, so; about 3 p.m. I hear my name and I saw that all the people are looking after me! One's I hear closs to me one of the guard's, and how I was lying under the grass, but it wasn't covered properly, so the guard saw me amd he call me on my name, so; I have not other choice; than to stand up, between I make myself like I was unconscious, and he took my hand and we went to the other people who were waithing for me; when we arrived to the group, he took out his "BAYONET" and start to hit me; so that the make of the Bayonet I have till

today on my back.

After that happen, we went to the camp; where the guard make the report to the Commandant, who called me for responsibility, but in time of the questioning; I told him; that it was very hot and I faal down and I loss my faith, so I think he believed me, and he free me from possible punishment. So, after that happen; I was going to work, but other places, when I decided again to run away; that day, I know; that the plan was not going perfect; because, this way are many villages and the people can saw me and inmediately hand me over to the police, but I must try everything and all means.

So, I continued to work other places, like to make betton floor on the tennis kurt, and when I finished; after a few days, the officer who was Paying tennis. he invited me also to play; but one day I cant to calm with my fate; so, I decided to try again my luck to escape; One evening I took my flask feel to the top with water and in evening after faal the dark I tryed to go out through the barrier, opposit off the camp, there was a small Arab coffee shop, but because the flask with the water-what I put in my behind, and I cross the barrier, the guard observed; that I have samthing behind me in the pant's so; he stoped and told me return to the camp, so; this time again I wasn't lucky, and in the same evening I saw; that the officer in the duty with some ✓ of the guards enter i n our barack's, and are looking; if somebody is missing? I put my blanket on my head, I create that I am sleeping.

Next day it was everything quite, so I do my job like every day, the time are passing, but I can't in no way be calm, I know that I can't rest till I din't arrive to Palestine! So, one day I told my Jewish friend; who was born in Polania, and in 1939 he cam to Palestine, he was minded "COMMUNIST", and he don't feel good in the "KIBUZ" (that is a group of the people who were working together, lieve together and everything what they have that is from everybody; like in the "COMUNA" in the Soviet Russia, so, he decided to go back to Polania, but because it was the WAR time in Europe, he took the way through Syria-Turqia to go back to Russia, but; when he arrived to Turqia, they arrested him, and

after they throw him back to Syria, where the Syrian authorities arrested him and put him in the jail, in the Central prison in Haleppo, where I meet him. I spook Hebrew, so we understand each other, and I don't afraid to tell him about my plan, and asked; if he want accompany me for the trip, we make agreement so, I started to prepare some food and for drink, I told him that we have two possible way before us; one on the less dangerous way, via Haleppo-Byrouth, and that is about 1100 km; but we are displayed to the inhabitant's of the erie, and the other way; that is shorthier, but very dangerous! because this way lead us through the desert, without water, very hot about 55/C; night fighting with the beast of wild annimals, and beduins who wanders in the desert; and we have no ARM's with us, for defending us in case of need, and the first beduin village is far about 170 km; to South in way to Damaskus-Palestine, but on the contrary of all this danger, I decided to choice this way, the last!

One day when I know that the moon is rising very late after midnight, we decided to start for escape, but my friend in the last minute told me; that he is very sorry, and that he can't accompany me, because he don't feel so good, his heart is very weack (unwel) and he afraid that because of water shortage on the way he will die on way! So I understood his condition and I took his exuse, and I told him; that I will ask this Yugoslav person, who was before in the French Foreign Legion hier in Syria, so; I asked this man, and he agreed!

This night we went to the bed dressed so; that when we get up in the dark between 12 hrs, after midnight, that we don't make noisses, we don't asleep, so without difficulties we get up, we took our (only my) kit bag, and we went out from the barrack, we went around the barrack's, we don't wanted meet anybody, it was before 1 a.m; and without moonlight, and was very dark, that what we wanted, so; in a few second's we were closs to the wall, what we needed to cross. The wall was about 3 yard high, and we climbed over so; that one helped the other to cross the wall, we pulled one the other and than we jumped down, only when we were down, than we saw a wire obstackles about 2 yard high and also about 4 yard wide,

and not so far was a electrick lapm what gave us the light outside the camp so; we find a place where somebody before us passed through under the obslackles, I passed my kit bag to my friend when he passed first the barrier, than I passed and so we went through!

So, when we were over; we took the direction; we passed the high way and started walk to South, it was also very bad that we haven't a map or compass, but we took the orientation from the moon, what is started to rise on the horisont, from the stars and than in the day-light from the moving of the sun.

Because after a few hrs. of walking we saw how the sun began to rise in the early morning, for the view it was very nice and clear, not hot and very quetly, only we hear from the city what we abandoa dog barking.

We are walking slowly, we know the direction so we dont talked to much, so that we must not use the canteen (flask) with the water, because we know that we are short. So, in a short time about 4 a.m. we saw the sun is slowly going up on the sky, and the bird's of the desert star to flay around us searching for food, all around it was very quiet a little bit fright, but the strong wish to cam to our goal was much stronger from all!

It was very interesting in the desert without the most important thing's the water....water....water..... and again water food and gun....

But if you take in your mind, the danger what was going around in Europe; before the German's; the danger was not so frightful! On the way we din't meet anybody, we are walking ahead slowly; and slowly start to be hot (warm) and light, the warm wind started to badern us, it was very hot! but dry, till about noon we dont stoped on any place, but enexpectedly we stoped and start to listen, because we hear voice of flock sheeps and goat's, also dog's barking not so far from us, so we start walking in that direction, and after some hundred's of meter's behind a small hill we saw the flock's they are drinking water, not far behind them were two young Beduin's together with their dog's, when we cam closser to the sheep's, we saw a small; like (a lake), we start to drink the water together with the sheep's, inspite that was stinking and troubled, but it was "MOIST DAMP", than we filled

up our flask and without talking or asking samthing from the sheppard's, we returned to our way, and walked away.

The desert dunes was very plain, no grass, no threes, no homes, no living being, no water; perhaps before many-many years ago it was reining in that erie, because we saw many places with deep-ditches, it was looking like small river's, where before many years was flowing the water and now left behind only the track, but to-day are all very dry, and only sometimes perhaps some claud's lost their direction and covered that erie and droped some drop's of reign and that gives the earth (ground) moist, so that some places in that time, mostly winter time you can see green grasses, but this appearance is only for a short time and after that everything are again dry and waste.

After a few km. happen samthing with my friend, he start to be "lame", I asked what is happen? he answered; that he feel pain on his leg, so; that from this moment we walked more slowly, and also from that water from the small lake; we start feel very bad, in our stomach, so that about noon we were about 40 km. from the city, and because it was very hot 55/C; so we decided to make like a tent from the blanket what we brought with us so; that we were a little in the shadow, we make the plan that; first day we will walking a little more, and before the dark we will rest, and after the dark when is more cold, we could walking all the night.

How we are talking, we so on the left side a few km. from us a "Caravan" with camels, they were about 3-4 km. far, and they were approaching in our direction, only on the side, so when they arri-ved about 100 yard's from us, I cam from the tent and walked toward them; with our flask, asking them for a little water, the Beduin's who are riding on the camels, when I was closs to them, the camels started to be excited, when they saw a stranger for them, but one of the beduin's jumped down and cam to me with his Coat's and put it on me (on my back)so with this coat's I can approach them! and I told the man; that I want water! I told him on Arabic "MAI", and I show my flask, he took the flask and feeled with the water from "BLADER", but before that he gave a sign to one of the camel's to seat down, and he told me drink from the "BLADER"! That was about 1 pm; and it was very hot about 55/C. and because I was very

thirsty, so I drank' and I don't feel nothing bad taste, till that time; but the bad feeling cam afterwards, when I was finish with to take the water and to drink, I thank for, and I started to walk back to my friend, but on the way back I start to feel very bad in my stomach, and hardly (barrely) arrived to my friend, because I start to womit all the water what I was drinking and than I start to feel how the water was stinking from the "BLADER" because we are not accustomed, the Beduins are accustomed for that kind of water, but for us European people, that was samthing terrible, while my friend took a drink and after a short time he feel the same, but when you are in the desert and you dont worry about what will happen, so we were, the Beduins, they carry for their wandering through the desert, the "BLADERS" of the Camels what they cut off, and they feel with water, when they go on their journey, and the Camels they carry in their body water what is for them enough for seven days, and they walk very fast.

The Beduins were merchants, and they was with their Camels loaded with miscellaness goods, and they were on the way from Damaskus to Day An Zawr, the city where from we escaped, they saw that I am not an Arab, but they don't asked me nothing, sometimes you can also meet groups of Beduins; who wanderns in the desert and they are very dangerous, they can to steal from you everything you have with, and also to kill you and they are all armed!

The Beduins when they crossing the desert, they everytime walking in groups (caravans) because they carried good's on the camels, but also smuggled arm's; drugs and opium's, in particular they transported the drug's all over the Arab countries, and all this Beduins are armed, because many time they are attacked from the other Beduin robbers, who are wandering in the desert from that purposes.

About the desert dunes; the desert dunes are very plain, no grass, no tree's; no houses; no living being, no water, perhaps before many-many years it was reigning in that area, because we saw many places with "DEEP DITCHES" it was looking like before many years it was reining here and the water how was flowing left behind track's, but today ist all very dry, and only sometimes perhaps some claud lost the direction and covered that erie and droped some drop's of rein and that time is also a little bit

the air wet and that give the earth (ground) moist, so that some places in that time, mostly winter time you can see green grass, but this appearance is only for a short time, and after that everything are again dry.

But in the sand dunes in several part of the countries are different; because in Syria where I crossed the desert territory are mostly all hard ground and it is easily to walk or to drive a car, because of the hard ground, except some places very far one of the other, where you can find like "OASIS", that are very scarce, overthere are water some trees and some green plants, and also there you can find living being beduin's, and there are the resting places, where the Caravans stopped in their way across through the desert with their camels for pick up some food and mostly water.

But in the sand dunes in several part of the territories are different; because in Syrian desert the territory are mostly all hard ground and it is easily to walk or to drive a car, because of the hard ground, and are mostly flat ground without hills, despite in other countries with the real sand dunes are low mountain range, but the differences are in the other countries like; Saudi-Arabian desert; Israel, Egypt-Sinai, and all other African countries desert's; Libya, Algir, Maroco, and e.t.c.... In that country the desert sand dunes are really all sand's and low mountain range, so that is very hard to walking across and mostly never raining.....

After a few minutes, how we are lying in our tent; from time to time; we took a look outside, and how I was looking; very-very far, I saw that again are approaching groups of caravans, but that was very far, after I call my friend and I show him; and he was also looking; but this time we saw something like a "OASIS" (a place in the desert region where ground water brought to the surface or surface water from other areas, for humid vegetation) with trees, houses and caravan's in passing, sometimes how you are looking, you see that they are in "MOTION", and sometimes the same picture came more closer, and after that disappear, and that again you see the same things some other place in other direction. After a time how we are looking this appearances, I told my friend; you know what is the "FATA MORGANA? the FAMOUS MIRAGE"?

In that time how we watched this very interesting phenomenon, the time passed, it was about 7 p/m; but the sun was very high and unexpectedly we hear from behind us from the city direction engine sound, and how we were behind a small hill, so we can't see nothing, but we were sure; that is some car approaching in our direction. After a few minutes we saw a bus is drawing closer and closer, because we are standing now on the way, they the driver saw us and he stop the bus; he opened the door and the people are jumping out and approaching us; after that we seat down; and the Arab women's came down and they brought us water and water melon's and immediately took our head in their wing's and started giving us the peaces of water-melon's in the mouth; we started just feel better, but we make a little more sick than we were, and it was very comfortable to lying in young Arab women's wing! It was very funny so lying in the wing's of the young Arab women's wing's; because we haven't the opportunity for feeling so soft women's body already many month's! I think; they was also a little surprised; to hold in the middle of the desert in their hand's some foreign body; what was perhaps a little different from their husband's; It was very funny but on our bad luck very short time!

After a half hrs; I saw that the bus is turned back, and with some of the passengers start to move in direction to the city, this bus are every time escorted with guard's (police), afterward one hrs; the bus came back; I think with decision; that they want take us with them to the city in the desert "PALMYRA" what is about 170 km. in the middle of the desert on route to "Damasek".

After some discussion between the people from the bus; I supposed; that they solved the problem on that way; they take us with them, so everybody enter to the bus together with us, and the bus start to move.

The dark faal, and the bus are running very fast, and we was jumping inside the bus; because the way was not very good, (desert way) without asphalt, in time of travelling we feel a little the warm from outside, and about 1 a/m. after midnight, we arrived to the first desert village "AS-SOUKHNE"; 120 km. from the city. Some people went down, and with the rest, the bus drove away

with direction "PALMYRA"; where we arrived about 3 am. in the morning. The police escort of the bus, brought us to a small house, where hand us over to another police person!

In the new place the guard show us a small room where we can rest a while so; that in the morning he bring us some breakfast, and during the day; the police escort us to the French Commandant of the city, because we can't speak French, so they bring us a lady, she was from Italy, she was a assistant doctor, and she worked before the War in Europe and in Bayrouth, but when erupt the II World War, the French authorities deported all the people who were from other countries so; the deported her also in the desert city, and she was working here in the hospital, because she spook the german language, so they asked her to be our translator between us and the French Commandant.

After the meeting with her, we explained her; all our story and trouble, and told her that we want continue the way, and we don't want go back, but how much we try to persuade the French Officer, we don't succeed, so he answered that we must go back with escort.

After that story we returned to our hall, and we informed the guard; that we will start with "Hunger strike", in protest about the decision of the French Commandant, till he don't change his decision! Next day the guard bring for us a very good lunch; "grilled chicken with fry potato, green salat, desert and coffee, but we senr all that fine lunch back, and so we do that for two more day's.

The Commandant send us the lady to try perhaps we change our mind and start to eat, because he must transfer us back, that is the order! So when we saw that we can't do anything, than we reconsiliated with our destiny, so that the fift day of our stay in "Palmyra", they transfered us back to "DAYR EZ ZAWR".

CHAPTER 10

The small city in the middle of Syrian desert, the city of "PALMYRA", in middle of the desert of "JABAL AR RUVAG", small city, the population are most "BEDUINS", most of them are merchant's some shopkeepers, some are sheep's trader and they raise the (cattle) breeding livestock, you can found there the "RUIN's of "PALMYRA", stand in central Syria, this ancient city thrived more than 2.000 years ago, as a mayor stop for "CARAVAN's". An ancient city in Syria, N.E. of DAMASKUS, reputedly built by "SALAMON", Biblical name "TUDMUR". They have ~~the~~ interest of agriculture, because they have not enough water in the desert so, they brought everything from other city's, they have a few track's and with their help do the transportation, they have a lot of sheeps and they took them everyday to the desert with shepherd to feed.

The ruins are also very attractive for the Tourist's, so, on the end; one evening one driver from this who were on the way to the city where we must go back, he was loaded with mercandise, he came and picked us up, with direction to "DAYR AZ ZAWR". It was about 7 p.m. he was not afraid that we will escape on the way, because he know's that we have no chance to run away in the desert. So about middnicht we stoped for a few minute, and this time so with the hand, we asked him; how he recognise the way in the desert? without road sign and map's? He explained us; that is easy, very simple, who know's the stars in the night; the people who are living in the desert and who are driving through the desert they are driving with help of stars in the sky in the night, and on day light; with the help of the sun moving, and never they get lost.

Next day afternoon we arrived back and he handed us over to the French Commandant officer in the camp, he take us under questioning; I told him the trith, and I tel him; that I will try again also in the future, till I reach my goal, he answered me; be patient! He explained me that he can't let me go! because that is illegal step, and therefore he recommended me to contact the Jewish Agency "SOUHNUT" in Jerusalem(Palestine), and aske them a "CERTIFICATE", so, you can legal be abandon from here, and also legal enter to Palestine, and so I do!

After about one month I received a letter from the "SOUHNUT"

and they asked me; Who I am, where from I came, and what is my profession, and beside that; if I have "SPADE"-(pick) "Package and SHOVEL", again a proof of the big "BIROCRAZY" in the offices of the Jewish Agencies in Jerusalem!

I was surprised, because in that time of the WAR in Europe, the (Certificate's) for enter on legal way to Palestine; I don't belived that was "UTILIZED" (to make use of), and that they can't used one for me? Who were inprisoned here in the middle of the "Syrian Desert", who trayed to reach Palestine walking most of the way on feet! and trayed run away from the "EUROPEAN INFERNO" alone, without money but full with "HOPE"es, that one day I will reach the land for what I had dreamed! also without the help of the "SOUCHNOUT" and so my dream cam "TRUE"!

That was on hte date about 15 of September 1940, when one day now we are working, I hear from some of the people around me; that they heared; in a short time they wants transfer us to the city of "HOMS"; When I hear that; I make the decision; not to try to escape more! because; if they transfer us to HOMS; that will be very convenient for me. This city is about 300 km. far from the border of Palestine, much more closser- than from here where we are now! So, better be with patince and waiting a little so, I made the decision; and in about one month, and of November 1940 The Commandant assembled us and told; that tomorow morning we must be ready for the journey, but he don't tel us wich direction (what place) and the name of the city where they wants transfer us!

Next day early morning, we all were ready for the way, When they loaded us on the track's, we hear from the drivers that we are travelling to "HOMS". So, after all day travelling, before evening we arrived to the city of "HOMS", and they brought us to a large military camp, where are staying (stationed) the French Foreign Legion, After we step down, they make for us place in the barack's (shed), and after that we eat the dinner, after we went to the barack's for rest.

I must remark; This time they don't put on our hands 'FETTERS- and CHAINS" And they don't escorted us witharmed gandarmerie! Here in that erie the clim was much better! It was not so hot,

so we feel much better, the wether was like in Europe!

Next day we came, went to eat breakfast, and after they, the Commandant, distributed us to work in the barack's, what are feeled with military good's, and we have order to clean and to shift to another place. On 12 oclock noon, we went for lunch, and after we continued to work till 4 p.m. the dinner was about 5 p.m. and than we were free! So we can go to the city for walk, without permission till 9 p.m. and after that time we must be in our barack's for sleep. So the time passed with everyday work in the barack's and evening's to go out to city.

From the first day; when I was in the city, started looking for some Jewish Communities, where I can ask them for help, how to came to Palestine, but in this city I was with the same chance, like in the previous cities, everybody was afraid from the authorities for giving help.

One day how I worked with my friend's in the yard of the camp, from behind of me, I hear some very know's sound (voice), they talked in Hungarian language, I was surprised! just I turned, and I saw two soldiers are walking behind me and they are talking Hungarian, so I join them, I told them who I am, and where from I came, and from that time we were very best friends so, this two soldiers were from "DEBRECEN" HUNGARY", they came to Palestine in 1939 and they like many young "ADVENTURERS", this time in Palestine was the mobilisation of the people who are from "Checho-slovakia", in that time the military atache by the "CHeCH" Ambasy" in Palestine, they received the possibility from English Mandatory Authorities for mobilisation their citizens, who lieved in Palestine, and they are also fighting together with the British Army, the German's, with order to move to Syria, and after to France for practice (training), so, the two my new friends let them know's, that they are ready to move with them!

One day, they received the invitation to the camp, where they assembled the people, the Commandant of the group's put them together with other volonter's, but with the name's of those people who are missing; so, that they don't join the Chech-Army with their real name!

So, in our conversation; I told them; who I am and what is my goal, after that we agreed to try to go together to Palestine,

they told me, that they where in France, and after the training they came back to Syria, where I meet them, but after a week-two their group received order to move to "BAALBECK"(SYria), another city in Syria, so, that after a few days, they moved, and I can't make with them any farther program in the same case of; how to run away; and came to Palestine!

Between; the date was about 20 of December 1940, and how I was discussing with the other soldiers; like this two my friend's, I hear from them; that the "EYE" doctor specialist, from the "LEGION" he is going back to France, and if somebody need's "EYE" specialist than from here they will send that person to the Hospital in "BAYROUTH"(Lebanon) for examination. ✓

CHAPTER VII

ABOUT THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION:

The Legion established in year 1831, when second lietenant CHARLES-JULES-ZODE, joined the Legion from the French military Academy at Sant Cur in 1857, he discovered the already common belief that legion ranks served as a refuge for defrocked bishops, disgraced aristocrat's, and othe refuges from Europe's high society.

The Legion consisted from all kind of people from over the world, like German, Prussia, French, Hungarian, English, Italian, mostly the people who don't find satisfaction in their private life, but mostly from the people deserted from their countries, from the jail's, military, and they find shelter in the Legion, because there nobody asked them for their past! Or they lost their luck in their love, or they lost their fortune in all kind of gambling or drunkennies, they don't find any content in their life, and joining the Legion, they try to forget the past, mostly they are killers, or raubers (murder's and they are running away from the authorities!

When some person joined the French Foreign Legion, they must sign a five year contractt, and he must go where the Command send him, so after the 3=4 month of very heavy (trening) egzercise, he became a realy Legionare and than the high Command send the all Company to desert in French Africa, where they served like the desert defenders.

My friend who served in a company of a unit in the French Foreign Legion in Syria, he explained me that the training was very strong and heavy, they marshed many miles in the desert terain, without water and without to rest, and when they are in the camp's, after the dayly training's they went to the canteen's where they was drinking til they were drunk, and also they wisited the places like "WHOREHOUSE" for their sex problem's, so passed their time, and when passed their 5 year of sesrvice contractt, they signed for enother five year contractt, and so they accustomed their heavy life, and also many of them tryed to run away, but if the authorities catch them, they were exposed for heavy punishment!

Very interesant, that; when this people joined the French Foreign Legion, everybody changed his natural real name! so, for all of them it was'a problem to remember their new name!. And if somebody deserted from their unit's where they stationed in the African desert, mostly they starved from the very hot weather what is about 55/60/C. and water shortage, so they mostly perished in the desert of sand's and very far from living being population, or they were perished from the wild-desert animals. Also the population if they catch them; the French authorities pay for every deserted Legionaire who they handed them over, but in the service they are a very good fighters and very disciplined!

Just I was tinkinking; that in the chance that I came to Byrrouth, and from there I could try my new luck so, my brain start to think very fast, what to do? so, the next day I decided early morning to notify the officer in duty for visit the physician in the ambulance, so, when I come to the regular doctor, I told him; that I feel every-time my head swims, and I dont see on both of my eye, the doctor told me; that, because it is now a few days before the hollyday of Christmas so, that he would like that I came back after the hollyday, and he will give me permission to go to Byarouth, to the hospital where they have eye doctor's.

I was with patience, because now I was sure, that after the hollyday I will have the permission and the oportunity, (but inside in my body I was very nervous), because I can't just imagine for myself, that after so many time I tryed to escape, and now they will give me so easily to go to Byrrouth vithout escort! There in the camp, I don't make any mention about my intention so, that they don't know nothing about all.

Beetwen all, this time the group, the army of the LEGiON, they are making every day parade, with the misic, and many kind of exercises before us, they are thinking that somebody from us want's join them! and will make the registration to join the "Legion Etranger", where they must make contract for 5 years, but now I know and saw, nobody join them.

After the Hollyday, about 29 of Decembre 1940, I came to the doctor and he let me know; that he will prepare for me the necessary document's and I can commen on 31 of Decembre afternoon so; I can travel on 1 of January 1941, early in the morning so, I was above all! But I can't believe it! I can't believe.... On Decembre 31 I came to doctor, and I received the needed document's together with the train ticket so, on the enr, I take my kit=bag and after the faal of the dark, I put it in a sack, that; if somebody see me, that they don't see a bag with civil clothes, and I put that packet over the "Fences" of the camp, and I put it in a corner so; that no body can observe. Almost all the night I can't aslip, all time I was thinking about my way, and probably they will send somebody to escort me!

I must get up about 5 a.m. in the morning, because the train have to move about 7 a.m. so I dressed myself and took my small briefcase with the ticket and the other document's and took direction to the barrier where was standing the guard's by the exit of the camp. when I came to the guard, I show him my document's and he permit me to pass.

I lieve the camp; but every few minute and yard's I turned around and looked back, perhaps somebody accompany and escort me from behind! and I was shaken from fear, and also when I came to the train station, and also inside the train, but, on my luck, it was only my imagination so, I cam to Byrouth about 3 p.m. the same day.

when I arrived to Byrouth, I lieved my kit-bag in the locker room and take direction to the city, and I found easily the Jewish Community Center the "sinagogue", where I asked from the superintendant to permit me to lieve my kit-bag for a short time, After that I returned to the tren station and took my kit-bag, in what I lieved my civil clothes, and I returned to the building of the sinagogue, where I lieved the bag, and after I went to the military camp, where I must make report for my arrival.

I cam to the military camp, and that evening I rested, because it was 1 of January 1941, and from the fear, I was very tired so, I went early to sleep. in the night I dont dream nothing, but when I came in the morning, I feel myself much better! than two days before! In the camp after the breakfast, the komand officer give us the order, because there were about 150 col-diers from other companies too. who are comming for the same pourposes. All day I rested in the camp, I received order to work in the store room's of the camp, and after work about 5 p.m we get the permission go to the city if we want? till 11 p.m. So, when I was out from the camp, I toke the tram to the city, and when I was close to the Synagogue, I start looking for the people, the member's of the Jewish Community, and traying find help to continviting the way to Palestine. Now I was very joyful, because I was only about 110 km. from the Palestinian border!

Beetwen I remember that I have some addresses from a Jewish familly who lieved in Homs, and they handed me when I visited them

and this family lived here in Byrouth, and I wanted visiting them here, this family were from Italy, and lived here many year's, they have 3 daughter's, I visited them because I was thinking that I can have some help from them about my way, but when I told them about my way to Palestine, they refused, and told me that they afraid to help me because of the fear from the city's authorities, so after the visit I returned to the camp and went to sleep. The next day, I was working again in the camp, and afternoon the Officer call us and they read the order with the name's of the people who must go tomorrow to the doctors, because everybody are coming here for some kind of sickness so, my name was also between them, and after we can walk to the city.

when I came to the city, I visited again these family and we was talking about Palestine and the Jewish people in the world. After the visit I returned to the camp for resting over the night. The next morning, they took us with the military track to the hospital, where the doctor's are working, and they are received the visitor's, when I entered to my doctor I told him what happened with my eye's; he started looking (examined), and he told me all what I can do, he told me that he will give me a glass with very low number (dioptry), so that will help you! He put the glass in a wooden box, and passed me over. I was grateful, and he wishes me good luck! After that I went out from the office when I came to the street I took the glasses and through it away because I visited the eye doctor only that I came to Byrouth! and so I succeeded in these case. Afterward's I visited the Jewish community, and get them know, that I am now ready to feel out my goal. They told me if I need something what they are in possibility to help me, they will do everything about my wishes to come to Palestine.

After that I returned to the camp, and continued to work everyday something in the camp, and evening in the city I meet with people of the Jewish Community.

After a few days, the duty Officer call us again and read the names of the soldier's who must return to their companies from where he was coming, so my name was also there. But I decided not to return to my unit.

so, that afternoon I make everything ready and I prepare myself to go out from the camp, about 5 p.m. I was ready to go out, but: when I came to the fence, the guard are looking at me, and told me; if you want go out to the city; than before you must cut your hair! because without this order you can't leave the camp! I have not other choice, than go and looking where I can find a hair dresser; it was "Sunday" afternoon, and for that I can't find anywhere, I was in very critical situation, and it was the moment when I must take the last chance to escape, but in the last moment I meet a soldier with whom I was in the same room together, and I told him my problem; he answered me; ask from the guard permit and go out to the next corner out side the camp, because I am coming just from there, I was grateful for this advice, and I do how he explained me, so I came to the guard, and he allowed me to walk to the barber. when I was ready like a correct soldier, I came back and let him know that I perform the order so, after the guard gave me the permit to go out!

Because it start be dark, I took the tram and I came straight to "Synagogou", where I find the Super, and I asked my baggage. I enter in the room and very quickly I changed my clothes, so that I put the military uniform in the bag where till now was my civil clothes, and fast that somebody don't see me, I went out and took direction to the seashore, because I decided that the bag with the military uniform I throw in the sea, but when I changed the clothes, I forget in the pocket my last money so, I left without money, and because I don't know the street's of Byrouth, and I don't now how to go to the seashore, so I decided to go in direction the sense of hearing the noise of the sea, because the seashore was very close.

when I finished with this job, I came back on the same way, but this time I came to the house of the Jewish Community leader, and I told him; that I am now here! and I need a place where I can be through the night, he told me here is my son, and he will escort you to the "Hotel Tel Aviv" here in Byrouth, very close to his house, so, when we arrived in the hotel, his son told the owner; that his father send us, that he prepare a room for me! on the account of the Jewish Community.

so, I rested, and the boy went back to his house. when I entered to the room, and was alone, so laying on the bed, I started thinking; what and how to do now? when I am so close to my goal:

The date was 4th of January 1941, so; the next day I get up, and about 11 a.m. I went out to the street, and walked to this Jewish family, and because I didn't speak Arabic and also not French, I decided in the first time not to walk to much on the street's and because I haven't any of my document's; the military peper's I throw into the sea together with my clothes, and the passport and other's, they took me when they arrested me on first time in "Haleppo" so; how I walked "UNEXPECTEDLY" happen samthing special; and in that moment I turn, and I saw in behind me about 50 yard's two very young gentleman, they are talking and are approaching me and paying attention on me! When I saw that; I turn again and continued to go ahead, and after a few steps I turn, crossing the street to the other side, where I observe a fotograph store, the store was so; that there were two showwindow's on the two sides, and the door for entrance was in the middle. When I arrived to the store, I stoped and start to looking, like I am looking the pictures, but I was watching through the window's the two gentlemen, who are just crossing the street, and comming exactly after me! No; what to tel you! I start be very nervouse, and all my body start to shake, but only a few second's, so that till they arrived closs to me, at one's I turned, like now I want looking the other side of the window's so; that I can see them and look them in their face, when they stoped behind me, they stand so; that one of them was on my left, and the other on my right side, and I was in the middle, so when I turned, I saw; that they are looking at me from the top to the down, and after they leave the place, like the people who are looking after somebody, some person perhaps some criminals, smugler's or spy. And when they saw; that is not that person after whom they are looking, they went away without some for them success, but for me don't ask! I was after so many difficulties, and never was and feel so nervouse like this time, but that is happen because I was now so clos to my goal! and if this time I faal in a trap again, than who know's when I can be free again!!!....

When this people went away, I take direction to this Jewish family house, but when I came, the lady (mother) saw me how nervouse I am, she started to ask me about what happened?

and after when I told her all the story what happened on the way, when she hear all that story, she asked me that I leave their house, because she is very afraid about me! because I dont want for them trouble, so I left the house without be angry!

Now on the walk back to the hotel, I took the shortest way and I was not interested. to meet nobody on the street's! When I enter the hotel, I went directly to my room, and I don't came out till evening. I was very tired from the happening on the street, and I promise for myself; be very careful in every moment.

✓ In evening how I was seating in the loby, I get know one older person, who was also stayed in the hotel like guest, he was from "BAGDAD" (IRAQ), in between conversation how we are seating there, we are talking in "Hebrew" language, he told me that many Jewish people living in "Bagdad", and many of them want go to Palestine, he told me that; because, before I told him; that I am on the way to Palestine, and also I explained; from where I am comming, And so we are talking till about middnight, but before we told goodnight one to other, he took his breafcase and passed me over 2½ lira Sterling, that's mean; about 25 Lira Syria-Lebanese, here in Lebanon was a big value, and so we enter in our room's to rest.

Next day in the morning, because I was in the hotel eating so; I decided not to go out on the street, for that I have many time for thinking about all what happened with me in the last time in a few days!

But now I was dip throughful, about noon, I saw how somebody oppened the door of the hotel loby, in that moment I get frigh-tened for a second-two, but after I was very glad! because on the door entered two soldiers, and this was the same soldiers whom I meet in "HOMS", and after they leaved for "BAALBECK"; When they enter to the hotel I just recognise them, they were the same soldiers whit whom I wanted go to Palestine, before, in this story, I mentioned about them! They was also surprised when they observed me! we jump and embarase each other and we were very glad to see each other again! After that I asked the hotel ovner; to put two more bed's in my room for the two my friend's.



After we eat together the lunch, we enter the room and started to tell each other about all the story what happened from the time, when we must to part, so we talked about the next step for the future. Also we make the plan for tomorrow morning what to do; Because I told them about my nightmare from yesterday (day before), so we decided; that tomorrow morning only they will walk in the city, and will looking for some food and also for; how to start with the program for the way, and we went to sleep after midnight.

Next day in the morning when we get up, my two friends took themselves and went to the city, it was about noon, when they came back with some new plan; that they were by the seashore, and talked with some fisherman's, and they promised them, they are ready to rent a fishing-boat for day-two, but they must come back again tomorrow, when finally they will give them the answer. So; rest of the day we are rested and are waiting for tomorrow, between I give them some of the money, that they can go shopping something for the way.

Next day, the date was 6 of January 1941, my friends went to the sea-shore for the answer from the fisherman's, but when they came; the fisherman's start to laugh and told them; What you are "STUPID"! You want go in this winter weather time on the sea! You are "CREZY", you lost your common sense! So, after this failure they came back and told me all about, after that, they asked me; if I know to ride on bicicklet? I told them yes, so they went again, and in a short time they came back with two bicicklet's but after that one of them went again for the third one so, really, after a few minute he returned with one more, and now we have three bicicklet's, and we make us ready for start.

About 5 p/m. we were all three on the street, but before that we decided how we will ride on the way. so, we start that every time one of them will ride on the head, I in the middle and the third will be every time on the back so; that if happen something than they are on the place to help me, because they also speak French, and they are in the French military uniform, and we will ride out of the city of "Bayrouth" and take the road to SOUTH, cross the seashore. When we finished everything it was 5.30 p/m.

Friday January 6, 1941. So we start to ride through the town of Bayrouth, and it take about 1 hrs. till we came out from the city, and take the high way, where we take the higher speed, and also for that; because we know's that along the way the French military Command put on many places "OBSTACLES" for bloking the way from the people generally from the military groups, because; in that time in the French Army was a "REVOLT", and they separated the French Army in two part's; one for General "PETAIN", the "VISHY" Government, and the other group to General "DE-GOALE", and who was for General "DE-GOALE", they deserted to Palestine, where they joined to the group of "GENERAL DE-GOALE", because they are stationed in Palestine under the high Command of the British Army, for that the "VISHY" Government who was governed the Territory of "LEBANON", they build on the high way's many of the "BARRIERS" with armed guard's, but because it was very dark night, and the guard's can't see us immediatelly when we passed, so we take advantage and we drive successfully through, only when we passed the guard's, they wake up, and started to shout on us! But that was every time to late! Because we were far away from them, and also it was very dark night, and so we don't afraid from their "SHOUTING".

So, we are driving all the night, and about midnighnt we arrived to the city of "ZIDON", this city is a large town in South Lebanon, and about 60 km. South of Bayroyh, in this city we stopped for a few minute, and we buy a bottle of "ARAC" what we wanted use during the way for strenght, but how we are riding in the dark night, we don't saw a small bump in the middle of the way, so my friend who was carried the bottle, he turn over with his bicycle and breack the bottle. After on the way, we meet a Arab man; who was walking with a donky loaded with oranges and limon's, we stopped by, and purchase some, that we have for forward, but we make mistake; and what we purchased, that was sweet-bitter tasted lemon's, because we don't find on the way water, so we wanted used the oranges on place of water!

In early morning about 3 a.m. start a very heavy rain so, that we can't see more than 2-3 meter before us, on the way we passed some small villages and also the city of "CUR", but when we came out of the city, we must stop, because one of my friend faal in

a "TRAP" about 5 feet dep, this trap was made in the middle of the high way, and was build against the "TANK"s, we was very lucky, because my friend who faal in, nothing happen's samthing serious! Only the bicyklet was brocken, so we pulled him out, but the bicyklet we must to leave on the place in the trap. So, because of havy rain and darkness, we continued the way walking on feet. Now we were about 17/km. from the frontier of Palestine, after that we decided that; because we are near the border, and start be daybreak, we must find a place where we can hide ourself through the day, so, we contined the way again, only after the day-break we saw a small passage under the high way, we decided to use this passage, where we can be through the day, and because of heavy rain, so we can stay there during the day, We took also the remainder bicyklet's and put them in the passage, and we enter also, Because of cold wind what is blowing from the sea-shore, the rain, and also we were all very wet, so; we cramp ourselves one to other that we don't feel the cold!

From above us, we hear the trafic of the cars what was comming and going to the frontier, we was lucky, because nobody stop and sea us!

Lather in the day we took the food what we bring with us and start to eat, but that was very bad!, because that was boxes of sardinen, and after the lunch we were very thirsty and we can't find water so, we rested all of the day, Afternoon we hear from very closs sheep's dog's to bark, and we have to be on caution!

How draw closser the evening, the trafic on the way above ud were more slowly, so we don't afraid to go out and take a look all around about the situation on direction to the border, and we were able to make plan for continuining the way in the faal of the dark.

Because we were only 17/km. from the border, we decided to walk without the bicyklet's; walking on the feet, and also only beside the high way, the bicyklet's we lieved there under the passage so, we were walking on the left side of the high way, that we have the sea-shore on our right side, that we can't make mistake on the way, because of darkness, so we hear all the time the noice from the sea-shore of Mediteranean sea, and so we can't loss the direction.

When faal the dark, we went out from our place and took wit-
out to talk direction to the frontier, we walked slowly becau-
se we were all wet and very tired, last night we don't sleep,
and we passed more than 75 km; but we walked and every minute
we were more cloßs to our goal!

So we arrived till the place where we have to start to climb
on the mountains, we were very thirsty, but water we don't find,
but we were also very lucky; because the rain start again, and
we start looking after the leafs from small (short) trees (bran-
ches), and so we start licking the wet branches and also we drink
from the "Roks", but that all was not enough! My frind's were
very tired and every moment they faal down and ~~can't~~ go ahead!
I keep them for a time, but they stay more and more in behind,
I saw that I am in trouble, but I told them; only a little more,
and we will be on the top of the hills, and will be much easy,
and we can seat down to rest, and there we will find also water,
All the situation was very serious, the two my friend's are stron-
ger and younger from me, but they was not so strong in their wi-
shes! Its take very long time till we climbed to the top of the
hill of mountain, and start the rain again, more and more, so
we drink from the b~~r~~anches and the little holles from the stone's
and than we rested a little!

After middnight, we must climb down and again up, so from one
hill to the other, and all in very dark, in the night it is not
possible to see how many mountain's you have before you! Every
time you think that is the last, but after, when you climb one,
than you see that there are much more, till we arrived to a "DITCH"
where the stones were about 10-12 feet high, and we must go out
from there, but how? We holded each other's and so we pulled up
so we came to the exit from the "DITCH", but exactly we came out
before the barrier of the "LEBANESE" border, and we observe the
red lamp's, we know's that is the barrier so, we just turn again
on the hill and continued to walk, but watching that we don't
loss the noises of the sea, and that must be every time on our
right side.

After a very difiicult night; from the hill we saw now the sea-
shore, and we know's that we are closs to the high-way so, we
slowly start go again down the hill, and when we arrived on the

asphalt road, we jumped to the road where we observe small lakes from the fallen rain, and we start to drink that water, that was very stinking water, because of the smell from "TAR", but how much we drink, it was never enough, so from that water we feel very bad in our stomach.

It started to be morning light, and we continued to walk on the high-way, but when we arrived to a small curve, we observed before us perhaps 200 yard's the barrier of the "PALESTINE- border". ✓

CHAPTER VIII

But because it was very early morning and also "SHABAT-SATURDAY", so nobody saw us, and we just run behind some short trees, what was many on the side of the way, so after a few minute we start to climb again on the hill, where the trees covered us from the sight of the frontier observation station!....

How we walked. we saw the "SUN RISE ON THE SKY", it was very nice and attractive to see this scene, we arrived to the top of the hill, and we saw all the "GALIL ERIE", till the city of "ACRE-HAIFA", and how we climbed the hill, we came to the top and all at once in front of us, I observed in early morning first time in my life; how I step on the "PALESTINE SOLEIL", the early sunrise from above the mountains of "GALILEE", the city of "ACRE-Acre-HAIFA", they were covered with tiny fog, and through the sunny-air everything was swimming in the early morning's golden sunrise, above; the clean blue sky, and down all around from North-East and South high mountains with the city of HAIFA what is lying on the Northern side of the mountain of "CARMEL" with the golden "DOME" of the "BAHAI" temple in formal garden's in the grave of the "PERSIAN-born "BAB"- the GATE of the "FORERUNNER", who was executed in 1850 at the age of 31 for his religious teaching's, and from West the Mediteranean sea with his wonderful blue and very quite water, and this picture make in my body very deep influence! What I can't forget in all my life! It was something what you can't see everyday. I was so surprised; that in that moment I forget all my past; what I suffered through last years in the jail on my journey, and I started to dance with my other two friend's and jumping like a young child! The filling was deeply impressed, so, my "DREAM CAME-THRU"!....

It was very wonderful spectacular picture. It was January 7th, 1941, when I put my feet to first time in my life on the Palestine soleil"!

Before all the erie was under foggy air, but after that cleaned of, and we saw all the erie, it was very quite, we are standing a few minute looking and wondering this phenomenon picture, and then because I have in my kit-bag two more civil clothes so, I offered

to my two friends to change their military uniform's because, if the guard or somebody else see us; they can think that we are deserters from the French Army, and if the authorities catch us, I think about my two friends, and they send us or only them back to the French authorities, than; they can punish them very strong so, they changed the clothes, and the militaty uniform's we hide under the strees.

After that we start to pay attention how we can and wich direction go down from the hill, from where we saw the observation ? border station, and also the high way from the border of Naharia-Haifa, but we saw also the "WIRE BARRIER", what was about 15 feet high and about 10 feet wide, what the English Government build in the year 1938 against the "JEWISH ILEGAL IMIGRANT'S", and we observe a place; with a holle, where before us somebody passed through so, we took that direction, and we jump and run down the hill, and in a few second's we were through the barrier and cam to the asphalt way.

When we came to the road, after about 200 yard's of walking, we meet the first Jewish person in Palestine territory, this person was a police man who served in the Palestine border police station. When we told him; that we just arrived, we asked him; where we can go and hide us and eat samthing and rest? He told us; that about 500 yard's from here are a small white house, and there were more Jewiah police people, there we can rest and drink samthing, and after that he went to his duty.

"THE OTHER MISTAKE!"

We continued to walk, but on the way to this house, it happen our mistake, we saw on the side of the way an Arab house with a shop (store), and I saw inside bottless of every kind of drink so; I recommended to my friends togo in, and perhaps we can drink a tea or samthink else, so before we cam to the Jewish house; and because we don't know's that the Arab can "HARM" us and that they are "FALSE" so we enter the store and asked a glas of tea, in meantime we forget that we have only "Lebanese money, the owner went to the kitchen to make the tea, but in the same time he send his daugther to the neighbours, to the next house, to tell them; that here are

three Jewish who arrived now from the border so; they in a few minute till we drink our tea, they assembled about 50 Arab's, and they surrounded the house with the store, when we came out; they catch us, between them were also some Arab police person's so; that they surrounded us and we can't move anywhere, and can't run away, perhaps for call for some help from the Jewish house or settlement's what was around not so far!...

After a few minutes, approach a armored English police car, the Arab police stop them, and told them; that they catch three Jewish Imigrant's, they came to us and order us to enter in the car, they took us to the border and start with questioning; what lasted till noon, after that they escorted us to the city of "ACRE", and put us in a small jail, where we rested till morning the next day, when they took us again on the armored car, and drive with us to the border, they wanted be sure, that we say the true, they took us to the hill, where we leaved the military clothes (uniforms), but when we came to the place, where we left the uniform's, we all were surprised! because we don't find the uniform's, I think; when we changed the clothes, perhaps somebody observe us, and when we left from the place, he came and picked up, so; we have not other chance than return to our investigator. Perhaps is also better for us, that we don't find, when we came back, the investigator officer don't tell us nothing, but after that they take us again in the armored car, and escorted us to a small Arab village, the village was on the other side of the barriers so; that this village was in the "Nobody-Land" territory, so they brought us to the door where was the passage through the barrier, and told us please; you are freeee and you can goooooooooo...

We passed over the gate and stoped, and start study the new situation! In first moment we have the impression; that here must be some foolish trick! because we supposed; that on the other side of the village are the French guards, and that is dangerous for my two friends, meantime we decided to go in the village looking for some food, so on the way we meet one person Arab, who came in our direction; and he stoped before us and told us; that he know's that we are new Imigrant's and that we have not to afraid, and if we want go to the "KIBUZ", on the hill upstairs, you see there, (and he show us on the hill) that was true, and you can go there,

between we arrived to the Arab coffee shop, where we enter, and first we order a good breakfast, and this person enter to us and start again try to persuade us to rest in the "KIBUZ", this time we want be more with caution, and therefore we told hi; that he must go before us; so on the way we meet two young Jewish settlers "KIBUZ WORKERS" who were working in a orchard, when we saw them; and talk with them; than we give some tip to the Arab person, and than we continued alone to the hill to the KIBUZ.

This KIBUZ, and most of the KIBUZIM, the Jewish Organization and the Jewish authorities build on the border's of Palestine, because there were only Jewish people together with Jewish help police "Gafirim", who were helping also to the Palestine English police, in case of necessity so, the English authorities give them also permission to hold "GUNS", and so they watched the borders from the "ARAB TERRORIST'S, who in the time, many time attacked the Jewish Settlement's. So after about 1 hrs climbing on the hill, we arrived to the KIBUZ, the name of the KIBUZ are "H A N I T A"; and this time there were about 150 young members, boys and girls, it was early afternoon, so they gave us lunch, and than a room, where we enter and the first was; we take a good shower, and till dinner we also have time to rest a little. When it was time for the dinner; they call us and we get know's all the new friend's, after the dinner two of the Jewish police members approaching us; and start to ask; who we are, and all about the way! and at last, what we want to do? After that they make some offer to us' and that was; if we want join the British Army? because if we are ready, than the British authorities will take us like "British Soldier", and we can be in Palestine till we serve in this erie, and after the "WAR" they will gave us the "CERTIFICATE" the legal document for enter the country! The people are so much talking, that my two friends agreed to join the British Army, but I told them; that I served in Yugoslav Army for 18 month's in the year of 1937/8, and now I was in this one year 7 month's in the jail on my journey so; I don't want join the Army. After we went to sleep, and we rested very good, after two not sleeping night's. Next day after we get up, and started to talk about what all happened and on that, what the KIBUZ people talked with us; so, on the end I Agreed also, but for myself I was thinking differently, I was sure that I cam in the Army, one day

I can escape!

So; the next day about 11 am. the Command of the Kibuz police call us; and when we came out to the backyard, we met there the same English Officer; whom we met on the border day before, I just recognise the Officer and I explain to my friends; that we saw him on the border, who was the person who are questioning us!

After the officer talked with the Kibuz police members; they leave the place, but before they left, they told us; that they will send a message for us, the day was Monday; so we are waiting for the news from the officer, but Tuesday all day and also Wednesday evening not arrived any news so; the same evening I talked with my friends and told them; if we didn't hear nothing till tomorrow (Thursday), then I will not wait more, and the same evening I will cross the barriers and go cross into the country!

But what happened! Thursday morning arrived two English NCO from the English police headquarter, with the armored car, and took us with them, they escorted us to the city of "ACRE" ("ACCO") and direct to the "COURT HOUSE"; the "JURY (JUDGE)" give us 7 days prison for illegal entry in the country, so; after that, the police escort us to the "FAMOUS PRISON" of "ACRE" (ACCO).

THE FAMOUS FORTRESS OF "ACCO"

During the period of the British Mandate for Palestine 1917-48, the medieval fortress of ACCRE-(ACCO), served as the country's Central Prison, for criminal's as well as Political convinced. Here; Vladimir Jabotinski, the founder and leader of the "Betar" and "Revisionist movement, and 19 of his followers were detained in 1920 for their defence activities, during the Arab riot's in Jerusalem. In April of that year.

During the 1930 and 1940, hundred's of members of the three Jewish Under ground movement's languished in the large prison; Here; Shlomo Ben Joseph, Dov Grunner, Jehiel Dressner, Eliezer Cahani, Mordechai Alkani, Meir Nakar, Avshalom Haviv, Jacob Weiss, all member's of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, went to the "GALLOW'S, singing Jewish national song's as a last gesture of "DEFIANCE"

On May 4 in a daring and brilliantly conceived and executed action, the Irgun stormed the fortress of Acco and free many of the prisoners, This exploit on of the heaviest blows dealt by the Jewish Underground movement, to the British security forces and British prestige, caused a worldwide sensation!

After established of the STATE of ISRAEL, the ACCO fortress are converted in to a "Institution" for the person's "Menthally" ill's, Years later, part of the Citadel including the "DEATH-CELL" and the Cell of JABOTINSKI, was dedicated as a NATIONAL SHRINE.

The guard put us in the room with other prisoners, we were about 12 person's in the room, the sixth day afternoon, the guard told us that we will be transported to the city of ACCO, to the Court, the other inmates in the prison explained us; that; if the police catch somebody for illegal enter the Country, the Judge in the Court as usual, punish the people for 7 day in prison, and this situation can go also a year along.

So, in the morning it was very raining day, and the police took us in the armored car, but the armored car was on the top open so, that till we arrived to the city of Acco, from the prison, that was only a few minutes drawing, we were all through wet, and

so we arrived to the "COURT HOUSE"; in the hall of the "COURT" were seating 5-6 Arab police person's, they came to testify like witnesses against us, When the "JUDGE" enter, he asked us about our fault! in this moment all the Arab police jumped, and told the Judge; that we enter illegal to the country. Because we dont speak English or Hebrew; but my frind's talked French, so they told in French language to the Judge our case; the Judge told us; that he can't do other "Judgement than to punish us again 7 day, or; if we want go to higher COURT, than he can transfer our case to the CURT in HAIFA, so I told my friend's; that we consent, we want be transfered to Haifa, but the Judge told us; that; this subject take about 7 days so; that we must be with patience till that time..I was thinking; if no more thinks than, first in Haifa on the Curt there are walking arround more Jewish people, and possible they were be able to help us, and if they can't help. than we can see the city of Haifa! that is "GREAT" that ist also samthing! for the person who never saw the "COUNTRY".

After the Court in ACCRE", the police escorted us back to the large prison in "ACCRE" and we were weithing again 7 days for the new trial!

So we are weithing with very big interest for us , to go to Haifa, and that day arrived! In the morning the date about 1 of February 1941, ine English NCO escort us in the armored car to Haifa, when we arrived to the Court, about 10 am. we enter the hall of the Court House, we observe there again the same 5-6 Arab police person's, they came again to be the witnesses against us, About 11 am. enter the "JUDGE", and strite to us; (he don't ask us nothing about our case;) giving the "JUDGEMENT"; turned to us and asked if we have some money? if yes, than the "JUDGEMENT" is; you have to pay 5 piaster's for each of you, if not, than one day in the prison, (1 English pound are 100 piaster's.) When I hear that, I answered that we have money, (but in that moment I forget; nthat our money are left in the prison an ACCRE, but also the Arab police jumped and started to protest; but without result, because the JUDGE when he told us, he just went out from the hall.

After that I start go to the Jewish people, who were walking

in the building of the Court House, and asked them for help. I asked some money also from our NCO English Sergeant escort, so; that in a few minute I colect the need, and pay by the cashier, but now start the new story; the Arab police personel cam to us, and told; that we are not free! because; we are free only from the COURT, but not from the police, so; they took us again back to the prison of "ACCRE".

When we arrived to the prison, we get a room together with 5 other inmates, they were from Bulgaria, they were Mariners, one of them was the Captain of the SHIP, they transported the Jewish Illegal Imigrant's from Europe on the sea way to Palestine, and the British Navy catch them together with Jewish Imigrant's on the board, and put them in the prison without "JUDGEMENT", so we were eight person in the room, we were not together with other condemned in the room, and so our life was a little more easy than for the others.

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CHAPTER X

LIFE IN THE PRISON OF "ACCRE"

In the morning we get up on 5 a/m; than the guard brought for everybody coffee, a peace of haluva, 1 hard boiled egg, 1 pita (the Arab bread) and some green olives; after that about 7 a/m. the guard cam for counting, because is possible somebody perhaps during the night escaped. After that we were free, (but- only in our room), about 11 a/m. we went out to the yard for walk- ing, two-by two; and without talking for a half hrs; After that back to the rooms, and about 5 p/m. dinner time, after 8 p/m. was forbided to talk, because it was time for sleeping, that was the rull of the prison in "ACCRE"!

After a few days we get know a person prisonier, who worked like a cook in the kitchen of the prison, and he was the person who was together with other two person's, the English authorities caught them with their "GUN"s in hand; they were from "I.Z.L." (IRGUN ZVAI LEUMI) "the Jewish Underground Military groups-fight- ers"; one of the three, the authorities "CONVICTED on DEATH PE- NALTY, with "DEATH BY HANGING", and this person (the cook) he was in that time under "AGE", so; that he received for "LIFE" inprisonment, the person whom they "HANG", his name was "SHLOMO BEN- JOSEF" and the third; in time of "VERDICT", he make himself "CRAZY" and so they give him "FREE",

During the day we were playing chaese, and because the other inmates in our room they loved to smoke cigarettes, but there was trouble; first; it was forbidden, second; who are smoking, they can't rich (aquire) so; one day we discover some way; how we can aquire the needed cigarettes for smoking without to buy, from us; who were the discoverer; I don't remember, but one day we take a long peace of yarn, a small pencil and a peace of paper; than we write on English and Arabic; that we want cigarettes; after we wrap the pencil in the paper and than we tied the yarn to the pencil and slowly; but very slowly with patience we pulled through the bars of three lines; the first bar was very fine, just so large that we have trouble to pull through,

but that isn't all; than we must pull also through the second and than through the third bar's to allow that the pencil pull the yarn down, and we lived on third floor, till we do all this; (job)work, it took about 5 hrs; working on that project, but we have success, because till evening, we catch a fish! Somebody observe the yarn and put one cigarette, and so the people have for smoking, they just used one after other so; that from this one cigarette, they all smoked, they all enjoyed, without me! because I wasn't smoking, and also today I don't smoking! And for them was very good feeling! It was very interesting day!.. But we must be very carefully from the guard's. After we start to do this job everyday, so that; after 2 weeks we caught about 17 cigarettes a day, and we were very happy for that success, and because we were also very busy and rich! Until one day we were surprised; because the last day direct (straight) the prison Commandant walked in the street in that erie, and on this side where our window's were, and he saw the yarn with the pencil, and he know's from with room that came so; he came to us and told; that if one's more we make that; than he will transfer us in another room, what is not so close to the street. So we must promise him; that we will finish with that kind of very funny and interesting job!..

Through this man who was the cook, we succeed to inform the sister of my friend, she lived in Haifa, that we are here in the prison of "ACCRE" so; that the next Saturday she came to visit us, and she bring also some fine cake's.

After a few days we saw; that our case is frozen, and we have not chance to go free! so we decided to start with "HUNGER STRIKE" and next day we make proclamation; that we will stop to eat; till we will not be realised from the prison!

Next day when the guard brought the breakfast, we told them; that we refuse to take the food; and we start official the Hunger strike! so, after that time we don't take any food from the official person's, only we eat what our friend's in the room hid for us, so that the guard don't see!

After three day's of striking, the prison Commandant call us and told; that we can finish with the strike; because they doing

something in our case, and we must promise; that we will finish with the strike!..

After a short time, the prison Commandant told us that we have chance in a short time to be free, so we start to be with more calm, and we took from the library some book's and start read during the day's, that we could shorten the time in the jail.

One day afternoon, came to us in the room one of the guard; and call me to the office, when I enter, the Commandant told me; be ready; tomorrow morning (only you), we would transfer you to Jerusalem, I asked what for? but no answer, when I came back to the room, I explained to my friend's the new's, but we all were not very happy, because from one side, we also were thinking; that perhaps is possible, one will be free, and then, that one can help the others so, the next day I was ready, and about 8 a/m. the guard escort me to the car, but what kind of car? a very armored car! and after me, they brought also two other prisoners to the car, but they were Arab's, and they were dressed in "Red uniform's" this uniforms wear's the prisoners who were convicted (condemn), to "DEATH" penalties, so I was escorted with the two "ARAB MURDERER's", who know's; how many Jewish they killed? but here in the car they were very quiet, because they don't know's what will bring them the TOMOROW!.....

In the car with us were also one of the guard's, but all the way we don't talked, and for that it was very "BORING", but after 12 hrs. of driving, we arrived to "JERUSALEM" in the "CENTRAL PRISON", where was also a few hundred prisoners, Jewish, but mostly of them Arab's, and many of them with "BLACK HAT's" what is the sign; that they are convicted for life prison, for the Jewish prisoners, they hold separate room's mostly not criminal's like me! only one person was there in our room a Jewish, who are Convicted to "DEATH", but after he received "AMNESTY" and he stay for life!

This person was from the "Underground Movement I.Z.L." and the British authorities caught him with the gun in hand, and because that time the British Government brought the "DEATH" Penalties for the people, by whom they find "GUN's".

After 2-3 days I get know also another one, from the Jewish, who was convicted for the same crime, (gun's) and also received

"AMNESTY", and he was the leader of the "LIBRARY" there in the prison, and through this person I send a letter for my friend in the city of Jerusalem.

After about 10 days, the British authorities transferred also my other two friends from the prison in "ACCRE", here to Jerusalem to the Central prison where I was too, and now we were all together again, and we were more happy, because we aren't criminalist and we were together.

One day came to us one of the British guard's, and asked us; if we would like to go clean everyday the "CELL's", where they keep the "CONVICTED" for "DEATH", the Arab prisoners, they were without "AMNESTY", for us it was very interesting job so, we accepted, because we don't do nothing at all during all day's, and because in the "DEATH CELL's" were only "Arab's", so they call us, but was also interesting job, because; if the British authorities convict (condemn) somebody to Death penalty from the Jewish, they never do the "EXECUTION" in Jerusalem, but only in "ACCRE".

So, the next day morning the British guard came to pick us up, because there were also Jewish guard's and Arab's, but for this job only the British guard's are reliable, and also in the "CELL", where rested the "DEATH CONVICTED", inside the "BIF" room, day and night were only British guard's, and in the room were 4 more small cell's, and in this cell's are the convicted, the large room they opened only from inside, from the prison's corridor, there are light day and night, because there were no window's, but the guard's have inside telephone so, if they needed something, they (the guard) can use, and contact with outside guard's.

So, the guard came for us, we followed him, he opened the door, and we enter in the "MISTEROUS" room, from where, from the start of British Mandate in Palestine, 1918, where many "ARAB's KILLERS" and "TERRORIST's HANGED", the guard opened for us only one cell. because there were in this time only two convicted in separated cell's.

We take out the can (pail) and put in a clean, and we put also a dish with fresh water, and also we changed the dish for food.

So we made also in the other cell, we don't talk with them! and the guard never talk with the convicted, but the guard beware us,

that we don't give them samthing, for convicted, ot that they don't give us samthing doubt. They all time said in "Arabic" "ISH-ALLAH", that's mean there is "GOD"!, When we were finish, the guard came and pick us up, and we returned to our room.

One day, after about 2-3 weeks, when we enter the room of convicted, we saw; that both of the cel's are empty, but we remembered; that, day before that happen, the prison authorities ordered "CERFEW" about 8 a.m.; so, everybody must be in his room's, also from the workshop's, where the prisoners worked, they must return to their room's, when that happen we know's, because the oldest prisoners told us that; this time they make the "EXECUTION", but we never can't be witnesses for a HANGIG ceremony, there were only the authorized person's in time of execution.

It was also time that, nobody were in the convicted cell's, these time the room were without guard's so; one day when we came to clean the cell's, the cell's were empty, so we take chance and take a look through the keyhole in the room where they executed the people with "HANGING", because this room was just closs to the room with the cell's, and after the execution the prison authorities handed over the body's to the family for burying.

So we continued the life in the prison, everyday about 11 a.m. we are able to go out to the yard for walk with the other prisoners, here also two by two, without talking, in 11.1/2 we must be back in our room's and than; they brought the lunch, after that we can ask the guard for go to the showers, about 5 p.m. was the dinner time, and after we rested and talked about our future.

On date 21 of April 1941, one day the prison authorities call me to the office and told us; that tomorow they will escort us; me, to the "Yugoslav Embassy", and my two other friends to the Czechoslovakian Embassy; what for; they don't told us, so, the next day one police escort us; but they don't bind us! because they don't afraid that we will escape.

When we arrived to the Yugoslav Embassy, the guard handed over a letter in what the English authorities asked the Embassy; to gave for me a passport; because they want send me back to Yugoslavia, where from I came! (Deportation), but the Embassy secretary told

the guard that; They can't feel this application first; because they must contact the Yugoslav authorities in Yugoslavia, and these case is a long procedure, and take long time in this War time in Europe. So that temporary the answer was "NO"; and the guard took me back to the prison; The two other my friend's they escorted to the Czechoslovakian Embassy but; how I explained before; that; they joined the "CZECH ARMY not under their really name! so, the Czech-military Atache, don't find their really name in the list of "REGISTRATION" to the Czech-Army, so they can't help them!

When I talk with the secretary on the Yugoslav Embassy, (the secretary was a Jewish), I asked him; what the British authorities wanted? and way they send me here? He answered me; that they wanted send you back to Yugoslavia, and for that they asked from us the passport, but don't afraid because we can't do that, now in that WAR time!... After I asked him if there are some friend's from Yugoslavia, who live here in Jerusalem, and who are ready to help me to come out from the jail! On that my request he gave me the address of a "LAWYER" who are from Yugoslavia -NOVI-SAD, and his name was Meir Weltman, and he told me that I try to write him a letter and explain about my position, perhaps he can help me!

When I came back to the prison, I first asked this person who was the manager of the prison library, if he can send for me a letter to the city? to my new friend, he answered me that he is ready, so I prepared the letter and handed him over. Through this channel I send my first letter, That was a Tuesday and in the first Saturday, when it was the visiting day for the Jewish prisoners the same Dr. Weltman came to visit me, and he brought me also some very fine cakes.

This Lawyer was from Novi-Sad, Yugoslavia, and he knows all my friends who were from the same city so; I explained him all my story, in short, because of shortage of the time, and he promised me; that he will try to do everything about my release from the jail. Now I was very happy, because I feel myself with one step more ahead to be free!

The next Saturday he brought with, and introduced me one of his best friend "ZVI LOKER", and so after that; they make ~~xxxxxx~~ visit every Saturday,



till one day the guard call me to the office, and there they told me; you will be free! because in 1 hrs, you will be free! for this new's I was very happy, and also my friend's, because I promised them; when I came free I will visit them every Saturday, and I will try help them to come free!

The Palestine Prisons.

Telegraphic Address : "PRISON JERUSALEM".
Telephone Number : 199 JERUSALEM.

In your reply please quote

No. U/215/41.....

CENTRAL PRISON,
JERUSALEM.

22nd May, 1941.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Moshe Levy Nander was imprisoned in the Central Prison, Jerusalem for the offence of being illegally in Palestine and was released on bail pending deportation on 22.5.1941.



ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
CENTRAL PRISON, JERUSALEM.

CHAPTER XII

FREE LEGAL CITIZEN IN PALESTINE

Before I get free, in the office they made a document with my picture, with the tittle "CERTIFICATE", in what they certify that; "I MOSHE LOVY NANDOR", was arrested and imprisoned in the "CENTRAL PRISON of JERUSALEM", on that document they put a new made foto; where I was looking like a "MURDER", who know's how many years I was seating in the prison!

When they finished with me, they escorted me to the outside door and told me; "NOW YOU ARE FREE! and YOU CAN GO!"

also in the office they handed me over my money, what I brought from Lebanon.

The time was about noon, when I came to the door through, I must passing, when I get out from the prison building, I was surprised, when I observed out side the door, my best friend ZVI LOKER, who was waithing for me! The meeting between us was for me very touching, because this time I was a free man! My friend Loker, he was also happy to see me free! So, he just invite me to go together to our common friend "MEIR WELTMAN"s house, where they are waithing for me, and also on the Certificate was; that I was inprisoned for "ILLEGAL ENTRY TO PALESTINE" date 21 of May 1941.

When we arrived to the house of my friend Dr. Weltman, we ring on the bell, and after a few second's his wife oppened the door, I introduced myself, and she was very happy to see me free! She invited us into the house, and just she preper for me a very good bath, and she give me also clean underwear; pans and shirt, in thas time, that was enough, because of hot air in the country.

After the bath I rested a little, till my friend Dr. Weltman arrived home, and he was surprised too, when he saw me! After that we seat down for lunch, the lunch was samthing extra fine! because; more than one year I don't eat samthing so good and so testy so, after the lunch we came and approach to the living room, where we rested to talk all about yesterday, today and tomorrow.

So, we talked till the faal of the dark, when we are invited from Mrs. Weltman for the dinner, what I never can forgotten! About middnight, we get up to go sleep, but my friend Loker invited me to go with him to his house, and stay at his house through the night, so I do, because my friend Loker lieved alone, and he was ready to share his room with me, that time he wasn't yet married.

So, before we leave, my friend Weltman hand me over 5 English ~~£~~ pounds, this sume was big money that time, and he told me; don't worry about the job; or samthing like that, go to the city, walk and rest, later we will see what to do! When I tell him all about my way, he was particularly surprised; for this "HEROIC DEED!" He told me about Yugoslavia; how the "GERMAN NAZIS" attacked and over-run the country, in a few days so, that he was also worry about the Jewish who rested there....

Next day I take maysself to walk in the city of "Jerusalem"; The city of Jerusalem, that was for me samthing fabolous, very interesting, because I dreamed about it many = many years, and now at once I am walking on the street's of that dreamed city, and in that minute-s I forget the past how much I was suffering on the way, till I arrived here, in that moment I remember all my friend's whom I left in Yugoslavia, how many of them would be very lucky to feel the same feeling what I am feeling now in that time, walking on the street's of Jerusalem; from one side I feeled myself very happy, but other side I was very "SAD", because all my best friends I left behind in Europe, where for them was waithing a very big disaster, just I hear the new's, that the German Forces occupied the territory of Yugoslavia. In that moment I saw before me a very dark claud what was now flaying over the Jewish population in Yugoslavia; what kind of life and feeling they have before them and in their near future? They can't go out from that country any more, what kind of darknes await for them, MY GOD!...and I can't help them.....

How I was walked on the street's; I stoped before a store, because in the show-window I saw "ROPES", and other good's, in this moment I remembered , that perhaps I can work, to made samthing in this store, and so only from curiosity I enter inside the store, and start looking all around. When a salesman approach me and asked what I am looking? perhaps I can help you (me) so, I start to tell him;

that I am looking for some kind of Ropes, from what I can make all kind of "Net's, like for fishing, tennis.....and he asked me what for I need that? I told him; that I am a new Imigrant and because I don't know Hebrew, so I talked with on Hungarian language, and so we started to talk on that language what he also understand, so we continued to talk, and than he asked me if I know to make all kind of net's, and after that he told me; that perhaps he will ask his boss, and maybe will be some kind of job for me, and told me; if I want come like tomorrow, when the boss will be here so, I postponed to buy samthing, and I promise that I will be here next day in the morning.

The next day about 11 a.m. I came to the store, and there I find also another clerk too, this clerk start to explain me; and after he told me if I want come with, he will show me on the place what he want, so we enter in his car, and he drive to a very nice place (erie) Rechavia, and he stoped the car before a beautiful house, we enter in the yard and he showed me s nice swiming-pool, he told me that the house owner want to make all around the pool a fence from Ropes-net's, and also on the top, I told him that I am ready to make and I took the measure, and in the store we can talk about the price. I told the clerk; that I want $\frac{1}{2}$ pound Sterling for a day work, and that the work will take about 3-4 days.

I must make mention that; when I learned make the "Ropes", this time I learned also to make the Net's to make! so, now I remembered all this kind of work. After the clerk make report to the boss, who meantime enter the store, and after that the boss told me that is O.k.....

Because it was to let, so I went home, but I don't tell about the job nothing to my friend Loker, because; when I came, he asked me what I was doing during the day in the city? and where I was? I told him; that I was walking and I was by the "WESTERN WALL", and many other places, but nothing about the new job, because I wanted see how that will go!

The next day I came to the store about 10 a.m. and I told the clark, which kind of ropes I need, and so I started my new job exactly how I took the measurement. I worked till 4 p.m. I must

mention; that the $\frac{1}{2}$ lira Sterling (pound) was a very good price, because in that time good workers are making (earning) about 3-4 pound Sterling for a month work, so, that I took a very good price, because that was a special kind of work!

This evening, when I came home, I told my friend Loker, about the new's, and he was very surprised, and also this evening we were both invited by our friend the family Weltman, for dinner, and this time I told them about my success, for what they all were very proud!

Next day, when I start to continue my work, some very high rank English Army Officers enter in the store, and start to ask the boss for some kind of "NET's, what they needed for "CAMUFLAGE" for the "TANK's in the military camp's, he just call me, because I worked in behind of the store, and because I don't speak English, so they translated me what they want so, I told them; that I can make for them the example in a few minute, so when I was finish with that, they took the example and told the boss, that the next day they will give the answer!

My new boss asked me how much I ask for the new work? if they give the positive answer with the order, the new net's must be 30 yard's square, and for that I asked for each net's 3 (three) Lira Sterling, because in Palestine this time that money was in value, and for myself I made the calculation, that I must finish everyday one net's, and that I can earn 3 pound a day, because that was a very hard work, that was like for the other workers salary for one month so, I was very happy for this success, and also from this money I give back the 5 pound to my friend Dr. Weltman, what he gave me in the first day's, when I came out from the prison.

Meantime I was visiting my friend's in the prison, but after when I came out free, the British authorities transferred them to a camp in the "GALIL", from where they became free after a short time.

After two week's, I finished with my job's, I started to produce "HAMACK's, so in the first time I sold a few of them, but after that, after some week's I couldn't sell anymore so, I put all my money in the order to buy the material, but I couldn't sell anyone! and so I had to look for another job. I left Jerusalem, and came

to Natanya, and that time the " DIAMOND" industry were searching for new student's to learn the trade.

When I came to Natanya, I rented along with 3 more friend's a wooden shack, where we leaved, and then I went to the Diamond factory, where I feeled the aplication, and took the eye examination, and after the same day, they accepted me so, the next day I started my new job!....

The first day was very easy, because I was very good student, and in spite, I had a strong will! So the first day I produced a (one) stone, so every other day's I produced another stone more so, on the 'six'th day I produced 6 (six) ston's and I was very proud of myself, so I was thinking now I have a new "Profession" and in a short time I can keep at this job, but, 'because; meantime the situation changed; the next week, the management in the Diamond industry took more new student's and so, we are all forced to slow down the work, because we had to wait hours on the line for the inspection on stone's what we produced, because they are looking at the precission of the work, and because of that, I couldn't make more than 1-2 ston's a week. Meantime I took other job's like working on the building's what were very hard work, and in the first time I could keep on doing strong! So, I was persuaded that I couldn't keep on going at this job, I left Natanya, and went back to Jerusalem, where I started working in a factory that produced "can's and "canteen's, for water for the British Military services, in that factory I worked for 12 hrs. a day, the night shifts, at 2½ piasters for 1 hrs. (in 1 English pound are 100 piasters), and meantime I repaired tennis net's in the British Military camp's, with this job I was satisfied, till one day my previous boss, whom I made the net's, call me and told; that he wanted to oppen a factory to produce the "ROP's" and net's for camouflaje, for the British Military forces, I answered him; that I am ready, and I made the sample of a "WHEEL", on a very simple and old style, (you can-see this wheel in the picture what I enclosed), because at that time in Jerualem there was no "Electrical machines" for producing the rop's, like in the U.S.A.

When we ordered the wheel's, than we rented a long "FOWL HOUSE", and started to assemble young people, mostly student's from the

high school's, and asked them if they wanted learn to make Rop's so, I took this people every day 2-3 of them, and when we received the Wheel's, I started to teach them, so in a short time I worked with about 20 workers, but one day, because of some missunderstanding, I decided to leave.

I came to Tel Aviv, and asked from a firm who were produced Rop's, if they want give me the material for making the rop's (for peasework), and that they pay me according to the production!

So I started again to assemble the people mostly young student's again, and learn them. Because I was very short in money, I must pay the workers according to the price on the dayly market so, for me don't left for life more than to eat every day only bread with chip oranges, day after day, till one day, when I leave all that work.



King peter II
of yugoslavia. Present his picture for souvenir
To mashe Logy. in 1966

CHAPTER XII

It happened one very nice sunshine day, when I was walking in the street's of Tel Aviv, I think it was about in month May 1942, when I meet one of mine friend, and in the talking he invite me to his house, where I let known another person, who was from the I.Z.L; movement. It was just lunch time, we seat down and eat the lunch, and after we start to talk about all the situation in Palestine amd in Europe, and how we talked; my friend asked me; if I have a very good friend here in the country? With whom they would like send us to the "British Military Camp", where we can learn how to work behind the "ENEMY LINE", because they would like; when we finish this egzercises, that the British forces throw us down with "PARASHUTE" in Yugoslavia, behind the German positionen, and create contact with the Yugoslav "PARTIZAN FORCES". But when they asked that my friend, whose name I give them, he rejected their recomendation with different excuses, and because this assigment was only for two good friend's that can carry out, so, this plan fall down!

The date was about May-Juny 1942, and the situation in the World was very bad, the German occupied all Europe, and were very deep in the "Russian Territory", and also occupied "Africa" and were before the door of "Egypt", and also "Endangered our country Palestine", therefore the "Jewish Authorities" in Palestine, decided to help the British Army with mobilisation of thausand's of "Jewish people" for join the British Army, and in that time they "Grounded the JEWISH BRIGADE" in conection with the British High Command in the "Middle East". But because in the British Army existed the "ANTISEMITISM", and for the Jewish who joined the British Army in that time, many times they hear the word "BLOODY JEWISH" and for that; I decided to join in the "ROYAL YUGOSLAV ARMY" with the "KING PETER II on top, because that time they are standing in Palestine, and they were also under the British Command, but with their own Command Officer stuff's, they grounded the Yugoslav Army in Egypt, in year 1941, after the German occupied Yugoslavia, the King Peter II, and his stuff cam to "Egypt", and also all the Yugoslav Military Atache's became order to came to the Middle East Egypr.



BAALBEK

14-2-44



BAALBEK

14-2-44

That time the British Army took many "War prisoners in Cyrenaica-Lybia-Africa", and between the mostly Italian prisoners were also many soldiers who are born on the "Yugoslav-Italian border", and they were all Yugoslav Nationalities, but the "Territory" belonged to Italia, and for that, this soldiers served in the Italian Army and so, they fall as War prisoners to the British Army.

After when the King Peter II of Yugoslavia arrived to Egypt, they hear about this War prisoners, and in connection with the British High Command in Middle East, they free those prisoners and they build the so called "THE ROYAL YUGOSLAV ARMY(GUARD) in Middle East.

Therefore I decided to join the Yugoslav Army but, because I lost all my document's on the way to Palestine so, when I came to Jerusalem, I report myself to the Yugoslav Embassy, and this time I saw an Officer inside the building, who was the Military Atache, and I just recognise this person, In the time, when I served in Yugoslavia, my time in the Army, 1937/8, he was the "Assistent" of the "Division Commandant"(General), and this time he was "Lietenant-Colonel" so, I came in and told the officials; that I want join the Yugoslav Army, they asked me; who I am, and where from I came? I told them; that I lost (I don't lost) but when I was in the Prison in "Syria", they took all my document's from me, but I have a person whom I know here in this Embassy, and he can "Prove my Identity" I know this Gentleman, and I show on that officer, and then he approach me, I told him; who he was; then the name of the "Unit Company" where I served, what city, and the name's of all the Commanding staff's, who served there, so, when he hear all that, he answered that all my story are true, so they don't asked more about the identification.

And so they make the registration for me to join the Yugoslav Army. I joined between the people whose languages I know, and also I can wear the "RATE", what I have when I served in Yugoslavia.

I joined the Yugoslav Army on 15 of Juny 1942, when I came to them, after a few days, they made a test, if I know to command a platoon. After the test my Commandant took me to his office and told me that I will be his secretary.



STAB
GARDISKOG BATALJONA
KRALJEVINE JUGOSLAVIJE

Br. 1322
15 aug. 1944 god.
u M.E.F.

CERTIFICATE

This is certify that S/Sgt. LEVI NANDOR was on active service from 6 July 1942 to 15 Aug. 1944, when he was DEMOBILISED on his own request.

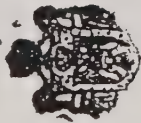
S/Sgt. Levi during his service was an highly efficient and disciplined N.C.O.

William J. Purvis

Colonel
Commanding 1st Bn. Royal Yugoslav Guard



20. August 1944
KRALJEVINE JUGOSLAVIJE
168 years of service



STAB
GARDISKOG BATALJONA
KRALJEVINE JUGOSLAVIJE

Br. 1322
15 avgusta 1944 god.
M.E.

U V E R E N J E

Narednik LEVI J. NANDOR služio je u ovom bataljonu od 6 jula 1942 do 15 avgusta 1944 godine, kada je po svojoj molbi demobilisan rešenjem Načelnika Staba Odeljka Vrhovne Komande Van Zemlje O.Br. 19926 od 21. jula 1944 godine.

Narednik Levi bio je mobilisan 6 jula 1942 godine u Palestini. Naredbom Komandanta 1 Gardiskog bataljona Br. 4167/42 za 27 juli priznat mu je čin potnarednika, a naredbom Načelnika Staba Odeljka Vrhovne Komande O.Br. 16810/44 za 1 februar unapredjen je u čin narednika.

Za vreme svog služenja u ovom bataljonu narednik Levi pokazao se je kao vrlo dobar podoficir, kako u disciplinskom tako i u administrativnom pogledu, vladanja je bio primernog, a službu je vrsio odlično.

(Certificate)

This is certify that S/Sgt, Levy-Nandor-Moshe, was on active service from 6 July 1942, to 15 August 1944, when he was Demobilised on his own request. S/Sgt. Levy, during his service was an highly efficient and disciplined N.C.O.

KOMANDANT, PUKOVNIK,



Colonel;

Commanding 1st Bn. Royal Yugoslav Guard.

4



7

*cairns
1944*

Visiting the "RHUINS" of the
"SFING's" in EGYPT, 1944

2


*Cairo
10/6/44*

5

Visiting the RHUINS of the
"SFINGS" in Egypt, 1944



Changing the guard's in Palestine
1942.



With my friend Yugosl.N.C.O, in
the sea shore in Tel Aviv, 1944



PORT-SAID - EGYPT

28-XII-44

Before the train in Egypt
with group of Yugosl. soldiers
on the way to Yugosl. 1944/5



ASHKELON 5-II-44

Visiting in Ashkelon the old
Ruins, Palestine, 1944



SALT LAKE 4-III-44

With group of Jordanian civilians
in Jordanian



BAALBEK 14-X-44

In Baalbek Syria, Meddle Aest
looking a larg ston, 1944



The military socer club in
Syria, meddle Aest, 1943



On a motor bike on the way to the
mil. camp in Palestine, 1943



Resting @n DEAD SEE
1944 SHORE
area, Palestine

From that time I managed every morning the "Gymnastic" exercises, and I was the "Stuff Sergeant" in the unit and I was "Responsible" for the "Discipline and Administrative" in my unit.

Between the time I organize the Soccer group so, I was very active in all kind of drill's. In the Yugoslav Army were many of the Yugoslav Jewish, who leaved in Palestine that time, and also they joined them, in middle of 1943, we received order to move to "Lebanon" so, we stationed closs to village "CUR", in the same time also the "KING PETER II, visited us in the camp, that time I took many pictures from this visit.

The same time when we were in Lebanon, we received order to be ready for move to "ITALIA", and take part in "INVASION" to Yugoslavia, but in the last moment the British High Command cancelled the order.

After that in a short time we returned to Palestine Territory.

In the Middle East, in 1944, the Royal Yugoslav Army (Guard), separated, because one part was for "TITO", and they separated themselves with the "Permission" of the British High Command, from LONDON. In our group who stay "LOYALE" to the "KING PETER II".the Command start to demobilize mostly the officer's stuff who were mobilized in Palestine so, I asked also for permission to be demobilized together with one of my best friend also Jewish, his name is (Martin Flesh-Eliezer Hetz in Hebrew).

After we came out from the Yugoslav Army, we went to Jerusalem, where we lieved before we went to the Army, and was thinking; perhaps there we can find some job! But after a short time we saw that we make a big mistake, because; for find a job that time was very difficult, so we decided to return to the Army, for that we travelled to Egypt CAIRO, where was the Yugoslav High Command and we asked for canceled our demobilisation, and we received!

Meantime also our unit turned over to the "TITO" side so, when we returned to the unit, we received the uniform together with the "MARK" of TITO's Army, WITH THE FIVE POINTED STAR".

The reason that I returned to the Yugoslav Army, and was ready to go with them to Yugoslavia was; that I have the only chance to see my brother's and sister's, if they are in life! Whom I leaved behind there, and that, I don't find a job in that time, and because in the Army I received a very nice loan.

When we received our uniform back, we returned to Jerusalem, to pick up our baggage, and next day before noon we dressed in the new uniform, and went to the bus station to return to our unit, what was in military camp in South Palestine (Kastina), but on the way from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, it was everything "OKEY" till; when the bus arrived to the cross-roads (Intersection) Jerusalem-Tel Aviv, and to South, by "Beit Dagan" village, here the bus start to make stop and to drive aside of the road, and than stoped, the driver oppened the door, and just entering a few English Uniform dressed police, they were from the C.I.D. the "British Secret Forces" they enter the bus and started looking all around on everybody, and when they came to us were we are seating, they pointed to us, and ordered to came up and follow them, they took us out and ordered us to enter to their armored car, we started to complein and start to explen them; that we are from the Yugoslav Army, and that we are on our way to our unit in Castina! But all our explanation was useless, they were about 20 person's (the guard) with 5-6 armored car's so, they took us to one of the car's and drive away with us to "JAFFA" where their "HEADQUARTER" resided.

There they start to investigate about; who we are, where from we came, and whom we belong?...

We give them exactly the true story, and told them; that they can contact and prouve by the British conection officer in Castina. After it was about 4 p/m; they finished with their test, they took us with very strong escort back to Jerusalem, where they start again withe examination; how we came to Plaestine, when, what we are doing before joining the Yugoslav Army, who are our friend's, where we resided.....so, they don't find samthing dangerous about us, and about 11 p.m. before middnight they free us.

Because both of us leaved before in Jerualem, and we know's the city very good, but when they free us, we came out on the street, and in the first minute we don't recognize where we are! Only after we start to turn left and right, that we start to remember with erie we are now! The erie was; where the English Secret Police had their station, what we know's before, only, because of very dark night, for that we don'r recognize the place.

When we were free, we went to our hotel, were we are sleeping last night so, when we enter the hotel, and take our room, after we

rested, we decided to repeat the same way tomorrow morning so, before we asleep, we talked about the situation, and what happened today! How we are thinking and talking about the case what happen's on the way, we remember; that all that happen's, because the sign of our uniform, the "Five Pointed Star", and the British Secret Service escorted us without that we know's, and they are suspected on us, that we have some connection with the "RED ARMY" and they are asking themselves; how this people came here?

The next day we decided to dress the same uniform, because we haven't other, and we must report us in the camp like that! For that, in the morning after breakfast, we took again the same bus, and in the same time, but we make some kind of caution, we turned all around us, but we don't observe nothing like suspicious behind us so, we enter the bus, and after a short time we were on our way. But what happened again! On the same place by the intersection of the way bay "Beit Dagan-Jerusalem-Tel Aviv", how I recognize the people, the same police group stopped the bus, because just before that place I start observe if is something on the way before us, when we are near the place where they stopped the bus, day before, just we arrived the place, the police guard closed the way again so; the bus must stop, some of the police squad enter in the bus and after they observe us, they took the way straight to my friend "Flesh", who was seating behind me, and took him by hand and forced him to follow them. I started again to complain; that we are military person's, and that we are on our way to our company with the station in "Castina" South-Negev, but all was without result, but this time they was satisfied only with my friend Flesh, and for me they told; that against me, they have nothing, and that I can continue my way. I think that; they found something when they questioning us before that day, and they found that my friend Flesh was a member of the I.Z.L. movement so, after I continued the way to my camp. The same day when I arrived to the camp, I just make complain by my Commanding Officer, and also I asked to contact immediately in my present to the British Officer, who was "Accredited" to our company, and I want to speak out my "Embittered-Protest" about their behaviour against me and my friend!

After 2-3 days, the British Officer told me; that the British Secret Service "Arrested" my friend because; they found out that he be-

longed to the I.Z.L. movement, before he joined the Yugoslav Army, and for that they arrested him, and put him in the camp, from where the British authorities send the "ARRESTED Jewish Leaders" to "Africa-Eritrea".....

After 4 years, when I was in Jerusalem, I meet my friend Flesh, who was in that time married and with two children, he explained me; that after they arrested him, they escorted him to the camp of "Latrun" where in that time the British authorities assembled the people with whom they were not satisfied in political meaning, so they prepared them for "INTERN" far from Palestine.

My friend was also between them; but; because he was ill on his "LUNG" so he make report by Physician, who don't permit the authorities to "INTERN" him; because of the "ILLNES" so, he stayed in the country!....

Meantime, we in the military camp in "Castina" received order; slowly to prepare everything, because in a short time we will be transferred to Yugoslavia. We must start to clean all the military goods and be ready to hand over to the British military authorities all the arms what we possessed, but without our own arms.

One day in November 1944, I received in the morning hours from the Army physician "Injection" against "TYPHUS", and I don't think about; that I can have later that day "FEVER" so, after the lunch I took my motor-bike, and started drive in direction to "Kibuz-Gat", what is more to South in the "Negev", because I have there many friends between the Yugoslav Jewish who leaved there, and before a few days I promised them; to make a visit before I travel to Yugoslavia so, when I was on half of my way, and because I don't know exactly the right way to the Kibuz so, I stopped the bike on the way, because I saw a man riding on his wagon in my direction, and I stopped him and asked if he knows the Kibuz? He show me the direction and he drove away. But when he went away, I wanted to switch on my bike but, in that moment start to "Burst into Flames" Because I think it was leaking the gasoline so, I just jump down on the side, and started to extinguish so, that I throw sand what I find all around me, but after that I can't switch on, because the sand. So, I decided to wait a while, perhaps will approach some car from the Kibuz!

About 6 p.m; before the dark, from faraway I observe a car to approach in my direction, when he was closs to me; I stoped them and told them what happened with my bike, and I asked them to take me to the kibuz "NE GBA", They helped me to put the bike on their car, and after a few minute we arrived to the Kibuz, where I find all my friend's, amd the bike they put just in the garage. It was dinner time, so they invite me for the dinner, when I enter to dinning room, I observe there another soldier Jewish also from mine company, and he approach to our table, after the dinner, we went to another small room, where we are only 3-4 person's, and we start to talk about the situation in the country, (Palestine) in that occasion we talked also about the arm's what the Jewish people needed in the country, in fighting against the Arab terrorist's, who are attacking the Jewish settlement's all the time, and the British authorities doing nothing against them! But one dings the British authorities yes are doung; they controled every time the Jewish settlement's and Kibuzim; that they dont receive "ARM" a from some place, from outside the country or inside the country, they many time's entered to the kibuzim and settlement's and are searching for the "ARM"s, and if they find, they punish all the people who are in the Kibuz or in the settlement's where they find. So the Jewish people was forced to hide their arm's. So they asked me If I can preper for them some kind of ARM's because; we leave now the country and perhaps I can help them in supply with the "Arm's (any kind) what they needed very much, and they promised me; that they can pick up one evening, but because the present of that person my friend of the company, I was very "SORRY", because of the "FEAR", because all time in the company this person was very dangerous! he was all the time between this persons who are listenning everything what the people are talking, and are handed over to the English authorities! because of this person I cant promise them nothing, and also I explained them, that not only I am in danger, but they can be also, In this case I was in caution, because I don't "TRUST" to this man!

Meantime I start also to feel "Fever" from the injection what I received, so that they took me to the bed, where I stayed for 2 two more days, between I contact my company and told them what is happened, so that they know's that I am in the Kibuz, so that they have not to vorry about me.....

But they still about 2 weeks, one night they cam, but on the time I inform them that is very dangerous, because in last day's the British companies, who are stationed all around our company, they took much more caution and guard all around the camp's, for me that was very suspicious, because before that, they never used so caution in the camp's, and that situation was all the time, till we don't left the camp! So, I was very "SORRY"! about the case, and also to-day I feel that it was incorrect and I "Blame mayself", that this time I was so "FEARFUL", and for that I can't help my Jewish brothers with some kind of arm's, what they needed very much and very urgently.

CHAPTER XIII

About 31 of December 1944, we moved through "Cantara Egypt", to "Port Said", the largest sea port in Egypt, where the large ships are waiting for us, till we embarked, there ensembled many more companies, they are also traveling to the "EUROPE-ITALYan front, to take part in the War action's.

After we arrived to Port-Said, just we embarked to a "NORVEGIAN-ship "BERGENSFYORD", we were on the ship about 5.000 soldiers, this ship was in the British Military Service for transport the Army, all around the World, and for that purpose was rebuilding and was sailing under the British Flag. When all the troupes embarked, the ship start to move, so in a short time faal the dark, and the ship was sailling in full "Blackout", because; of the enemy's "Submarines", so the first night passed enough quietly without alarm or any other troubles!

The next day, after the breakfast, we have the "Demonstration" on the deck of the ship, with full equipment, and holded about 2 hrs. After the lunch was the first alarm test, and afterthat; because we are sailling on the Mediteranean sea, and was approaching closs to Europe, along the way we meet a few British War ship's, and mostly all the way was very fogginess, and we can't see very far! We have every one hrs. alarm test, but also the sea start to be "Stormy" so, that for me that was the first voyage on the ship on the sea especially in winter time. I dont feel mayself very good, but I was thinking for this way, and I get before the embarking a boutle of "BRANDY" so, that helped me hold out till the Italian port of "Toronto", this port was the "Southeast" port in Italia on the Mediteranean sea.

We arrived to Europe on January 3 1945, and till we make the embarkment, it was totaly dark, so for the night they brought us to a camp, that was closs to the port, and only next day, the Military authorities transported us to the temporary end station, this military camp where they transfered us, belonged to the Yugoslav Army, and this camp was about 20 Km. West of the city of "BARRY", sea port on the "Adriatic Sea". In this camp where we stationed, was a transit station for the Yugoslav "TITO ARMY", because the wounded soldiers from the Yugoslav territory were transfered from the front line

in Yugoslavia, to the hospital's in Italia, and after the authorities put them in this camp for Convalescence to recover, and after that they send them back to Yugoslavia so, we were now for the first time together with the Partisan-Soldiers, and it was generally in particular not so Convenient, many of them we found without winter clothes, and they were very Envious of us. Between them was also without one leg or hand's and they know's that we are arrived now from the Middle East, and that we served the Royal Army, for that the situation for us was not so agreeable, and the camp Commandant don't behave with us Neatly, and the time what we are waiting for transfer us to Yugoslavia, was very Unbearable, for that I start to study; what can happen if one day I take myself and go to the city of Bari, and try to find somebody from the Jewish Brigade, because I know, that they served now in Italia, and not so far from Bari were the Command Offices was.

The next day, I decided; if till tomorrow, we haven't the news that in short time we will leave Italy, then I will go to the city of Bari and make report myself to the Jewish Brigade, but, exactly this morning they call the Company assemble of the people and they call the names of the people who must be ready for tomorrow morning move to the city of Bari, where the Command-Invasion ships are waiting for us, and every one will receive a car (jeep) and food for 7 days, and man have to drive the car to his unit, in the area where he was born.

We were seventy drivers with seventy jeeps, with our arms I have my TOMMYGUN, and also my 9/mm pistol as a NCC Officer, I have the right for the pistol!

In the next morning, the big trucks took us to Bari to the seaport, where we found the Invasion ships, they are loaded with the cars, and it was 5 ships, after we embarked about 6 p.m. It started to be very dark evening, and we start to move, the date was January 19, 1945, and we must arrive to the port of Dubrovnik- Yugoslavia, also port on the Adriatic sea, the weather on the way was first; very cold, after that, very stormy wind, and very high waves, so that we sailed in very dangerous time, and the 200 km. what we navigate in 24 hrs. because of very high wave and winds.

it was moment's that we turn over, and all the day was rainig, and only before evening when we were close to the Yugoslav shore of Dubrovnik, the rain stoped, but it was very cold about 36. C".

On January 20, 1945, we arrived to the port of Dubrovnik, (in time of peace) this city was very nice Turistiv center, very attractive and Romantic with many nice and big Hotel's. that city was the largest Turistic center in Yugoslavia, and many ten-thausund turist's are visiting during the year's, but today, only soldiers are walking in their poor military uniform's, on the very cold street's, every school, hotel's and high building's are feeled with the army forces, because the fighting line beetwen the Partisan' forces and the German army were very closs, so that the schooting we can hear.

when we arrived, nobody await us, so in the first few minute we don't know what to do! But after a short time studiing what we can do, and what step's to make, we leaved everithing behind on the sea shor with our guard, and took our arm's and start walking to a big building, where we received permission to rest over the night. when we enter the building and took place in a large room, we put on the floor our blancket's, everyone have 4 of them, and make a little accomodation, then started to entry and to approach us young people who perhaps are in the army, or perhaps they came out from nospital's, we don's know, but they started asking everything from us, that they have not blanket's they have not soap's, and many many other thing's, they wanted in one words everythings from us.!

But how we are in the Country and we don't know's what can be tomorrow, so nobody want be free from their dresses and other thing's, and during the night we must put our guard by the door, that nobody enter i n the room during the night when we are sleeping, because they are ready to stolen from us.

The next day happen also samthingm about what we were not ready In the morning, we started looking after our food, what we brought with us fro Italy, (Barri), but the food dissapeared, and nobody know's about our food, so we must be satisfy with the food what we received from the Company in the city, so that we start to worry, because we saw, that we are beetwen the people who ate very hungry, and who are ready to take everything from us, becaus they are on the power.

and you have not where and to whom to complain. So, the stird day was the most unpleasantness, when in the morning we have the order to move in direction to the city of Trebinje, what is about 35/km. from Dubrovnik, and all the way is through the mountains. When we came out to the assembly yard, we were sure, that they will hand us over the cars, what we brought with us, but it was a big mistake, because we saw that, in the cars are seating other drivers, and we have to walk on feet all the way in that cold and with no food and no something hot for drink..

But we arrived late in the dark evening, because in the city was no electricity because the enemy was very close. So, when we arrived, the military authorities gave us place to rest during the night in a tobacco factory, where they manufactured the cigarettes, but now in the war time, was empty, and we were forced to put ourselves on the empty floor and very cold, about 32/c. under zero, but some of us we are very happy, (in unhappy time and situation,) because, when we were in Dubrovnik, we don't gave away our blanket's and also other dresses, so we put under us two blanket's and over us the other two, and we don't took down our dresses (clothes) and we are lying very close to each other, that we don't freeze till the morning.

Next day we get up, but everybody was very tired, and about to wash the faces, we can't thinking, because everything was all like ice, so without washing, we start the day, first, nobody was worry about us, but in the early morning we received a cup of coffee, and that was all the food till lunch, for lunch we received a cup of soup with a few beans inside and a piece of lamb-bone's and a piece of bread from "CORN", but very hard like stone, and the same food for dinner. We sleep also this night on the same place, so, only after a few days, they put us in a little better room, where they put a little straw on the floor, because I was very hungry, so I went to the shopping center, where was everything empty, but some bread I can buy (change) for a pair of shoes, from that I have 4 pair, and so I repair a little my daily food supplement's.

The situation was very bad, I saw that the "Partisan" officers exercised (drilled) with the new partisan soldiers, and the new soldiers were without shoes on their feet, and also only in the shirt's without jacket's in the cold of 32/c., but at the same time

the commanding officers and the "COMMESAR's", they have to change two time's in a day the clothes and the shouses!

After 1-2 weeks some of the Commanding officer call me to his office, and asked me if I want be a driver and mechanich instructor for the soldiers, who are under his command? I told him; that I am ready to teach them how many I know. SO after he give me a room with a bed, and was also i little warm in the room.

After 2-3 week's the same officer call me again; and asked me to be also his secretary, and he start receive some old track's and car's, till one day we have to move to the city of "Mostar", because the German Army withdraw their forces from the city in direction to "SARAYEVO", the capital of "BOSNIA", and the date was about in February 1945.

When we arrived to "Mostar", in all the city were very big fighting between the "Partisan and German forces, but the Partisan forces advanced in every direction, so that the German forces start to feel appart, how the Partisan forces are ready to punish them, the Partisan forces have no time to much for thinking, how and where to punish them, they kill them all the places where they find them, and over take them, they were very afraid from the Partisan's, because they remember for the years 1941-2-3-4-, how they killed and devastated all the villages and cities and everything and everybody who they find on their way in time of the invassion of the country, so, that for the German invaders don't left to much time where they will be forced to live the territory of Yugoslavia and punished very hard. The Partisan forces dont hesitated to kill them, and I dont believe, that many of the German forces succeeded arrive to their country, they liveed their bon's in the territory what they invaded in 1941.

In Mostar I was a few week's, one day my Commanding officer told me, Moshe, tomorrow we will drive to the city of "SARAYEVO" for looking for some car's fpr our company, I told him; but the city is still under the German hand's, he told me; nevermine; we will stop on the way, and waiting till our army will go ahead, and when they will free the city, because we want be the first after the fighters who enter the city so, the next morning we start on our way, with a very old car; what we must every 10-20 km. stop and make

some reparation, but he had 4 weels, and that is all right. So we are driwing between the very high mountains, because "BOSNIA" is very rich with the mountain's, some of them high, also about ten-thausand feet, and covered with threes, and now in winter time, till the start of summer with deep snow.

On the way we must stop every few-hundred's of yard's, because the military track's and the Partisan forces are moving ahead very slowly, because they don't live in behind any of the German soldier's, and because the front line was just before us, so that we saw also the German troup's how they running back and living behind the injured and also the killed soldier's, their camarades, they have not time for that luxus to assebmle them.

The Partisan forces advanced on all the direction's, so after a few km. we arrived to a train station, what were not in motion, but the Partisan's used the building for a temporary hospital, where the Army ambulances are bringing every few minutes some injured Partisan soldier, and we saw how the "DOCTOR"s worked some time like the "BUTCHER"s, but they have no other choice, because they must save the lives of the soldiers so, only the third day of our way, we can enter to the city of Sarayevo, also with very much torture on rest of the way, because also the bridges were demolished so, that we must on many places walk in the deep water till our arm's, only our weapons we took over our head's, and the car we lieved behind.

The time was in April 1945, we know's that the time draw closer every minute, when the "HITLER" Army will faal down in all Europe, and with that will be the end of "SUFFERING of MILION"S" of the people who faal into the "NAZY"s hand's, only is a question? How-many people SURVIVED-REMAIN in life?and in what "CONDITION"?

One early morning we crossed the small river, and too tired, wet and dirty, we walked through the for me well knor's street's of the city of SARAYEVO, where before the war leaved about ten-thausand of "JEWISH SEFARADIM", and now? The first things in my brain was; not to looking for the car's, but looking for the people the Jewish "SURVIVERS" if is somebody in the first minute what I saw, was the "HARASMENT"s, damagees on the JEWISH PROPERTY's, after that I start to search for the people whom I know's very well, and and I talk with them in 1939 before I left Yugoslavia.!

But in my "sadness", I can't find any of them, all the city was overthrown, and everything was broken, furniture and many other things from the houses, from stores, on the streets everything was "BLOODY". In that was the track from very heavy and tragical fighting, the German soldiers were fighting now "Enbitered", because they know's that came near their "END", for that they are fighting for every step, and what they leaved behind, that was all in "RUIN's and BURNED DOWN", in the city left only the "MUSLIM" Yugoslav population, and many of them "COLABORATED" with the "NAZIS", and between they moved into the Jewish houses. I was wandering from street to street, and from house to house, searching; perhaps I can find some track after somebody, whom I know's, but also I afraid to ask somebody, When I was in Palestine, in the "ROYALE Yugoslav Army" I hear in the "Radio London" and from "Partisan radio comentator's from Yugoslavia, all about this people I know, what the German's with help of their "COLABORATEURS" MUSLIM'S and the FASCIST CROAT'S, together send them to the "DEATH CAMP's".

In evening, when I cam to the place, where we had the assembly with my Commandant, he saw me that I am "CRAYING", he dont asked me nothing, because he understand my filling, he was also JEWISH, and he "SURVIVE", because he went to the "PARTISAN fighters, and he was born i n the city of "SARAYEVO".

After that he told me about his family and relatives, that nobody left alive of them, here in this house, where we are now, this family, they are Muslim's, and he know's them from before the war. begins so, they gave us rest in their home for a few days. I was in the military uniform, and with permission from my Commandant so, I walkes everywhere in the city, the "SYNAGOGUE" the German's used for the "HORSES", and everything inside were broken, so that everywhere we can see only "BARBARISM"/'.

I remember the nice "YOUNTH" who lieved here, when I was here in September 1939, how they loved me, and how they wanted "JOIN" me to go to PALESTINE, and now? everuthing is over!! Now I stand alone on the street's in this large city, and feel that I must "RUN AWAY" from this "UNFORTUNATE PLACE"

After a week of staying here, I asked my Commandant officer for permission, to go back to Mostar, because I don't feel "PHYSICALLY" enough strong, looking and feel this "DISASTER'S"

So, next day, I took a car what I find till this time, the military engineer's repaired the damaged part of the way and bridges, so the way back was more easily, and without special difficulties on the way.

I arrived to Mostar the same day after dark. I remained in this city for a month, when one day I asked my Commanding officer, to transfer me to the city of "DUBROVNIK", to the auto "UNIT", because from there I can travel with the track's to Beograd and other for me important places (cities).

When I came to Dubrovnik, I reported myself to the auto-Unit Commandant, and the date was May 15, 1945, I was in the group of drivers, who received order to be ready to drive to Belgrade, with loaded track's, with gasoline so, early morning we stayed in the line (convoy) about 25 track's, and about 7 a/m. we start to move toward Beograd. We were on each track two drivers, because the track's were very heavy, and the way was not so good, and many times we must change the "wheels", the direction was; Dubrovnik-Sarajevo-Belgrade.

So, after two days driving, we stopped in Sarajevo, where we rested over the night, and then we continued through the mountains with snow covered the way, to the city of "SABAC", this city laying on the river "SAVA", and how we drove down the mountains of "BOSNIA", from far we saw the river, but how we came closer to the river, we have what to see! It was something "NOT NORMAL" in first glance we can't recognise the things, something "UNBELIEVABLE", the things, that was "SWIMMING" in the river, but when we came closer, just to the shore, we have what to see! and on our "ASTONISHMENT", we start recognise many hundreds of "CARVASES" SWIMMING ALONG THE RIVER OF SAVA" with direction "BEOGRAD", into the river of "DONAU", and the "BLACK SEE", because the river Sava is striming into the river of "DONAU" (DANUBE), and after to "BLACK SEE". What I saw, it was something "TERRIBLE", and this sight I can't forget for all my life!....

All my driver friend's asked me what that means? What that can be? How they asked me I remember! Where from the "CARCASES" are coming, I told them, that is from the "DEATH CAMP" from "JASENOVAC" near the city of "ZAGREB", where the "NAZIS" killed many hundreds of thousands of "INNOCENT PEOPLE", only because they were "JEWISH".

all the drivers, they were not "JEWISH", but they turned away from me, and I saw that they are "CRAYING".

We stayed there for about one hrs', and after we drive away to Beograd, to the end station, where we arrived after 2 hrs' of driving, where we unloaded the track's, we rested for 2 more days, between that time; I put in the new's paper a "AD", that I am searching my sister's and brother's, whom I left here in Yugoslavia, when I went for "PALESTINE".

Meantime I was looking for my friend's here in Beograde, but it was too early, because I know, all they were in the "DEATH CAMPS" and till this time we can't know if somebody left alive? So, after two days we loaded the track's again, and turned back to Dubrovnik, because we were short with money, we bought in Sarajevo some Brandy and cheese, and we sold that in Beograde, so, that we have money for our expences on the way, otherwise we can't make money, and also we don't received any loan from the Army.

After 3 days driving, we came back to Dubrovnik, we rested one day, and after continued to work with the track's, we are driving to the seashore, where this time stationed two large ship's from "UNRA", and they brought many kind's of food for the Yugoslav people, and we are loading and distributed in all of the country, but, first we are taking all that only in the city's warehouse's, so this time are in the port of Dubrovnik only two ship's, one English and one American, meantime I get know the Captain of the British ship, and many time he invited me to his cabin, on the ship for a cup of "TEA", and this time I explained him about my situation and my life, and that I would like go elsewhere away from here, from the country!, but how? After that he advice me to come on the ship, and he will hide me on the ship in his cabin, and if I want, after he leave the port, I can work on the ship with pay, and if not, than he will put me down in Italy.

Meantime, when we arrived to Dubrovnik from Beograd, the transport unit Commandant put me to leave in a large room with 10 more soldiers, that was a private house, the owner's of many houses like that, in the neighborhood, were not in the city, because mostly of them run away, because of fear, because they Colaborated with the "NAZIS" against the "PARTISAN"s, and they afraid from from the "PARTISAN's "PUNISHMENT".

so the Army took in the custody all this houses, this houses are all close to the seashore, so after every day work, I came to the sea-shore and took a swim, so, that I feel myself here not so bad! Till one day, after the work, we received order not to leave the place (house) because, the "political Commesar" will visit us, and he want make a speech. The meeting occurred after the dinner time so, when the Commesar came, it was about 7 p/m. in person this man was a young about 19-20 years old of age, and he was the Company (unit) "COMMESAR" (Leader), we were all older so, that we can be his father!. But in the Yugoslav Army is a order, You can't make differences, who is older or who is younger, but here in this country and with this rule you can't nothing to change! In this Army, where they have also "POLITICAL OFFICER", with the name "COMMESAR" who is more important from all other military Commandant's, like in the Army of the "SOVIET RUSSIA". So, he start his speech, and talked about one hrs; and after that he start to ask about several question's; about the political situation; so, after he asked me the following question; You were there in "EGYPT" (that is true) in the "KING PETER,'s ARMY" as corporal, (that is not true) so; what he the "KING" are thinking who fight here in Yugoslavia against the German's? I answered; that I don't know, what he was thinking, because I was not so close to him! With this answer we closed the discussion. But from the next day's I observed that everywhere I moved I have some "SHADOW" companion behind me, and he was looking also like a "COMMESAR" COMSOMOLAC", this people where the young "COMMUNIST-PARTY LEADERS-MEMBERS" (very active) . When I was together with a few my friend's, I saw him everytime close to me, because he wanted hear everything what we are talking, but I do so, like I don't know who is he, and everytime was somebody who I don't recognise, and that this person must not be around us!..



AMERICAN
With the stuff of the UNRRA ship
in Yugosl. Dubrovnik 1945.



Before mine office in the military
camp in Palestine in Royale Yugosl.
Army 1942.



With the Group of Jordanian
soldiers near Rabat Aman
Jordania. Medd. Aest 1944

Part
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Meantime I get know also the personel from the American ship, there was, one of them who are speaking Hungarian, because his parent's are from Hungary, and they are Imigrated to the U.S.A; before many years, and also I told him about my plan, that I would like lieve this country, and he also invite me on the shipso; I decided to stay with this American Matiners, meantime the British ship moved from the port of Dubrovnik away with direction to Italy, and now rested only the American ship, and I get know all the personel from the ship, also the "Capiten" so, the last day before the ship were empty, I brought my clothes and handed over to my friend, who secretly brought on the ship., so before the dark, when the ship were empty, and all the workers left the ship, but I rested and hided in a room, where my friend show me his bed and I took his place, because also in that room Kabin), slept other mariners too. I remained all the night on the ship, it was Saturday, and it was so that the ship will move from the port the next day on Sunday about noon, but it happen a mistek; so I left the room where I slept, in the morning my friend escorted me into the ship inside where were the engines, but my friend dont inform about my pressent's the first enginer, on the ship, because; when in the morning came to the basement of the ship to make control of the engine of "STERN", he observe me and order me to go out of the ship.

The time was about noon, so that the "Partisan guard's all around the ship were that time not so with caution, So, I came down easily without difficulties, and the guard didn.t asked me nothing about that I went all around the port, because the seaport was in a bay (golf), so I took a small boath Irented, and I came to the ship back from the other side, and I asked my friend's to throw me down my clothes what I leaved on the ship. In the same time the mariner's wanted pull me up on the ship with the rop's, but I was afraid, that somebody from the guard's will observe me! So, I lieve the place, and when I came to the shore I took direction to the barack's, where I lied the track what I was driving, in the garage), but how I was seating in the track, and was folding my dresses, I observe, that the "Unit Commesar" approach me, and when he came close, he asked me; where you were? because they are looking for you!

I answered; that I was in the city in my private apartment, so he told me; follow me to the office! where he told me the following order; that in the order of the "Batalion Commesar" he must "AREST" me, I answered; if you have what for; then you do your duty! because I was very sure, that nobody know's about my plan to trying to escape! and also that I was on the ship during the night! In the office the "Commesar" took all my baggage what I have with me, I have also a foto camera, and my picture's, but nothing what can be against me, so after a few minute, he take me to the "JAIL" of the "OZNA", where they hold the "Political Prisoniers". I don't saw anybody, but I hear voices, so I know's, that there were more people in the "JAIL", they put me in a room and I was alone, the time was perhaps late afternoon, because this evening they don't gave me nothing for dinner.

This night passed, and in the morning they brought me a cup of coffee, that was all the breakfast, for lunch also samting, and also for dinner, but very poorly!..

Next day morning, when they brought me the coffee, I refused to take, and told them; that; I start with "Hunger strike:" but by this people, if you make hunger strike, that is nothing, because they are not like the English, the prison Commandant was before the "Partisan's came, he was a "FASHIST" who collaborated with the " NAZIS", and "ITALIAN FASHIST's, and now by the Communist Partisan's he is the "Prison Commandant" so; when the people who brought me the food, told him about me! he answered them: "IF HE WILL NOT EAT, HE CAN Starving", and I don't cerr! for that, so; after I have not other choice than to eat what they brought me!..

In this prison I was about 5 days, and after that, they transfer me to another jail in the city of Dubrovnik, where I rested about four more days, than one evening came to me an Officer "Commesar" and told me: that tomorrow morning they will take me to another some place, only where he don't told me so; early morning a police man came and escort me to the sea-shore, where a small motor boath was parking and waithing for me. So the police escort handed me over to the driver of the motor boath, and just we start to move on the sea, together with us were also two more passagers, but they were not escorted like me, they was talking samthing but I can't anderstood them.

but with me nobody talked, also when I asked something; like where we are sailing? nobody want to answer, and we are sailing all day and without water for drinking and some food!..

Till before the dark we arrived to a small Island on the Adriatic sea, where the driver of the boat handed me over to the Island Commandant, and the name of the Island was "LASTOVO" this small Island belonged before the Second WW to the "Italian authorities" and now the Partisan Forces took over, and held on the Island German War prisoners, who were cutting the trees under the Partisan guard's, so, when they, the Partisan guard's saw me, they asked me what for they send me here?, because they know's, that on the Island are only the German prisoners, I answered them; that I don't know! Also the Commandant of the Island was surprised to see me so; he don't take me like prisoner, they don't put me to the jail, because they know's, that I can't escape from the Island, and when was the dinner time, they call me to eat with them together, and also they gave me a cup of wine, but after two days, they transferred me to another "Island" not so far from here, "CORCHULA", that Island was larger than the "LASTOVO" and were also war prisoners on the island, but there was Italian war prisoners.

When we arrived to the port, they escorted me to the Island Commandant (Comesar"), and he gave me the direction how I must walk in the mountains till I came to a small camp, where they hold the Italian war prisoners, who are working also cutting the trees, what were burned in time of fighting in the war between the Nazis and Partisan's, and also they don't afraid that I will escape from the Island!

So; I walked alone on the way between the mountain's, because all the Island are mountain's so; after 4-5 hrs. walking I observe a small house close to the way, I came closer, and after I saw a guard staying before the house, I hand over a letter what they gave me by the port, after that they escorted me to another small house, where I meet four (4) more Yugoslav prisoners like me; also "POLITICAL" prisoners, who they brought here to work together with the Italian prisoners, and they were some hundred's yard's away from the place where we have our house, then I get know the next day.

All this people who are together with me in the small room in that house, they were soldiers from several unit's, who were not

loyal to the "Partisan Movement", and law, and one of them was without one hand, where he lost his hand? I don't know! because every time he told us another story, so that I don't believe him, and I was sure; that he was a "Spay", who are listening about everything what we are talking, and passed over to the Commandant.

THE next day morning we received a cup of coffee, and after we went on the hill and start sowing the dry trees, after that we must bring on the hill to the place where the track's are waiting, and we are loading them, they transported the trees to the seashore, and they trasported that in the small ship's to the city of "SPILT", where they are using for heating in the winter time.

The work on the Island was very hard, we started every day early morning-till late evening, the food was very poor, but also this food some time we don't eat because many time we dont know's what to do first, after we finish the day work we came to our house were was only one room so, that we don't know's that first wash ourselves, or to rest, or to start to make some kind of food for dinner! We were so tired, that sometimes we asleep without all this things to do!

One day I get know one of the Italian prisonier he, I think was a Jewish, he spok a little German so, many times I talked with, and once I asked if he is ready to escape? because we don't know's when will be the end of our "TORTURE" on thes Island!.. but it was not so easy to run away from here, the Island wasn't close to the "Continent"; small boath you can't find on the Island, and do on the large ship, it was inpossible, because the authorities make very strong control on every passager, and the last chance to swimming, it was to far, but we decided to make two "OAR-s", because, when we are over looking the bay, we saw a small boath, but the owner for the night put i n the garage so, that we was ready to make "OAR's" ourself, so that nobody see us, and when is finish, than one night go down the hill, and take the boath and try to escape along the sea to Italia, because that was the nearest Country where we can escape, and that was about 200 Km. through the "ADRIATIC SEA".

Meantime, I try another was to escape; one day I asked the guard I told them; that I dont feel good, and I would like to see the

physi cian (doctor)so, after they gave me the permit, and the next day early morning I walked to the city of "KORCHULA" to visit the doctor!

I went to the physician, who was a very good man, but after that I told him my story, he answered me; that he would like help me mut; he can't, because of the revenge from the "Partisan" authorities so; after that I enter on a big ship what are staying in the port and was ready to move after a few hrs.. A few pasager's was on the board seating on the bank's, and I took a seat closs to them; I was thinking; when the ship start to move,I will hide may-self on some place where the control can't se me! But after about 2 hers. waithing on the ship, I feel a little ner vouse, because if they caught me, that I want escape, then they can pu nish me very strong, because they are not "Sentimenthal" with anybody, and if they kill me, also they do not bear responsibility!So, after all this possibilities, I decided to go down the ship, and took direction to the workers camp, where I arrived late in the night.

On the way I dont meet anybody, so I walked alone on the hill. After two day's my new Italian friend told me; that he don't feel enough strong for take chance to escape so, I decided; that I try alone, this exploit so; one evening I took my blanket out from the room, and tied between two trees like "NAMACK", and I told to the other my room-mate's; that is to hot inside the room, and for that I want sleep outside the room so; when everybody went to sleep I was lying on my"hamack", and because absorbed about all my plan to escape so; about 1 hrs after midnight, I get up very slowly, took my kitbag and slowly, but very slowly I start to walk down the hill, on a very narrow steep, but the way lead on the side of the hill, but between the hill's so; that how slowly and quietly I walked, the sound hear from the other side of the hill's so; I stopped after a few step's and I start to listenning if I hear sam-thing like before when I was walked? but I hear nothing, and the same sound I hear again also behind me when I continued again to walk, than I stoped again, and again I hear the same sound, like that somebody is following me, and when I stopped, the sound is also stopped, so I try several times, and every time the same sound I was sure that, somebody follow me, and I start to "IMAGINE" that somebody from the guard observed me, and start to follow me, I was thinking that he is waithing; till I will be more far from the camp,

and than he will shout on me! so, after perhaps ten time's trying to walk and stop, and every time the same sound. I decided to re-tourn back, and make like nothing happen!..

The next day I get up us every day, and went to work, with all other workers, nobody know's about my "ADVENTURE's" in the night! Perhaps is also better, perhaps it was only my "Imagination" because I know, when you walk between the hill's on the mountains, that you can hear everytime like contrary sound.

On this Island I came about 15 of Juny 1945, and about end of July, the guard are asked me if I know to make (to bake) bread, so, together with another Yugoslav prisoners, I told them; that I know, so; the next day we both took our kit bag's and went to the first small village, to the house, where they baked the bread for the prisoners, I remember how the bakers were made, so I try too, and my friend he know's too a little bit. So we start baking the bread, this work was much more easy, it was about 100 Italian prisoners and 5-6 Yugoslav, and about 7 from the guard, so our life was a little better than before. Meantime I received a letter from my sister from Beograde, she answered me on my :AD" from the new's paper, so I start be a little more quiet, and try to wait; what will bring the future!

About 1 of September, the authorities ordered the Italian prisoners back to the continent so; we left only 6 person's all Yugoslav and we must stop with our bread baking work, and continued with the others to cut the trees and loading into the ship's, till one day, that was about 15 of September, the guard bring us a very good new's that tomorrow all we are "FREE", and everybody must return to his former Company (Unit) so; all the night we can't asleep, but also because we were very tired, and in the morning we took our kit-bag's and we went on the way; where from we came before three mont's!

With the permit in hand, I was with another soldier-driver from the same Unit, on the way he told me his story! How they arrested him: his story was so: the day when "TITO" was made a speech, he was seating in a coffee shop, and how "TITO" are speaking he answered; us he (the same sldier) told; that everything is O.K.Y. on Yugoslav language is a like "SVE VAZI", BUT THEY understood like "SVE LAZE"; like everything is "TELING LIES"! But if somebody want hear that wrong, thah this is very easy to understand like.....

"UPSIDE DOWN INCORRECT" like the word's "SVE LAZE" that is like everything is "FALSE-UNTRUE!", and because the people of the secret police "OZNA" are evrywhere, they were also in the coffee shop's and they came and approach to his table, and started beat him! and after that they took him to the prison, and after that he finde himself on the Island of "KORCHULA" to work so, I told him also my story; and till we talked, we arrived on the ship to "DUBROVNIK" where we hear; that our "UNIT" moved to "BEOGRAD", and we have to report to the "COMMESAR" of the city of "DUBROVNIK".

When we enter to the office of the Commesar, he was dressed in "RED SHIRT" buy "BLOOD RED", so we can't say that he isn't a "COMMUNIST", he dont talked with us to much, but he gave for each of us separately and envelope and wished us good luck!.....

So, we went out his office, and because his office was on the 2nd floor, so we went down the steps, but before we came out to the street, we stoped and both of us oppened the envelopes, because we want know's what he wrote inside the letter's!....

For me he wrote; that I am not "WORTHY DESERVING" TO SERVE THE TITO's ARMY", and that I served the "KING PETER's ARMY" in CAIRO-EGYPT" as Corporal! so; for the other my friend he wrote; he were not behave us a "PARTIZAN SOLDIER IN TIME OF TITO's SPEECH" After that we closed the envelope's and put it in the pocket's, and now we must looking how to came to "BEOGRAD", because the train aren't working, no buses, but only with tremp (picl up), so we decided go to the high way and catch some car or track, who is driving in direction "SARAYEVO" so, we were lucky, because after a few minute we stoped a track and he pick us up. So we arrived to SARAYEVO. During the night we sleep a little on the track, and we rest also a little till the morning, the same track have to drive to BEOGRAD, but he must stop and stay in Sarayevo two more day's so; we decided to stay and wait till the driver will be ready to continue the way. Meantime we have some money so, we have enough for food and we bay also some food for the way.

Without problem's we arrived to Beograd, but because we were very tired so, we decided not to go to our unit's, so we went before to our house(home). Because I have the adres of my sister so, I took direction to her home, when I arrived home; she was very

surprised and very happy to see me after so many years, and the same 1. first thing was to make a shower and to dress samthing clean, meantime; she prepered for me a good dinner, and after that we start to discus about everything what had happened to both of us during this years so; we talked till after middnight, but we were never finish.

Next day I get up late, but notso late that I can't go to the Synagogue, because that was the Jewish New Year so, I was very interesting with; whom I will meet? who came back and Survive the Hollocaust, I went to the big Synagogue, and on my biggest surprise, but very gladness, I meet the two my very-very best friend's, (they were brother's), who Survive, because they both were in the partisan's, meantime they were married but their parent's and relatives were all destroyed in the Dead-camp, and nobody came back home. So after all we were very happy on this new Year, after that they took me to their home and no end of talking during all the night and the next day's.....

Only the third day I came to the Unit, to make report, that I am back, and I find there also a few my friends, with whom I was together in Dubrovnik.

They don't asked me where I was, and I dons tell them, because you never know's who is who? and you can't trust and tell all about your self, because I assurance mayself, that; here in this Country you must close your mouth, another you will see very fast the "JAiL", or if is going well; than you will never see the "SUN LIGHT" more!.....

Because the unit have only a few car's and track's so, they don't give me any function, for that I start with morning gymnastics so, first day I was alone, I was juggling all around the camp, but second day a few soldiers joined me, so that till end of the week, all the company about 200 soldiers took part, and also the Commanding Officers stuff together with the big boss Company Comesar, after that I start to organize the "Socer" unit, and we were playing with other unit's, but along all this; the Communist Party in the Army, they don't forget to organize 2-3 times in a week, some "DISPLY PARADE" on the street's of Belgrade, but this kind of "Parade" were not for some Hollyday, or for some exercises, they organise this kind of Parade for "Manifest" the Straght of the Communist Party, their "POWER", for that pourposes, they took all the soldiers plus the people like me! For whom they know's, that this people are not "Communist Feelling's and this people are perhaps (but sure) against the Communist Movement.

So, they took me every time in the middle of the group's where there was mostly the "very hard Comsomolniki, the yungest and sharpest "Extremist", that name wear the youth who are "Educated in Communist spirit! and they are very-very Dangerous, and in time of Marching, they start to "SHout" (cry) "Long Live the Communist Party", after that again Long Live marshal Tito, after that; Long Live Marshal Stalin, and so ,but never the end, and before every "WORD"s "THEY STING ME (PRICK) me in the (MY) Ribs" s, I must also SHOUTING THE same words! the same SLOGAN, together with them, like; Long Live the Soviet Communist Party" and so, and I every time when I must "shouting" I feel a "STING" in my "RIBS", and so many and many that long lives.....and many more word's and never end of many Long Lives.....so, that after every "March" like that my bodywere all "BLUE" from the many Long Live's, sting in my Ribs!

But this behavoiur everywhere in all the "Country", and they k now's who are the "Reactioners", but in this situation I made everything what they asked from me, but in the "HUMAN-BEING", I can't approval their behaviour and "Politic" because I don't

like the "Agresive Politic", where is good only for the "Comme-sar's. I don't liked them before to, and I don't liked them "now"! After that what I saw in this Country. "I hate them" much more than ever before!..

So, one day (evening), the company make a meeting, where they choice members for the "Cultural and Educational Commitee", where they choice me, also for the "Sport Educational member", and most of the choiced members were from soldiers from them, whom they know's; that they are "Reactioner's (against the Communist Party.) and some of them were student's, but next to us were also one of them, the "Party member"'s, so that we can't do anything without them, they were behind us on every step's.

One day I hand over for that Cultural group a lot of my picture, filmed in Yugoslavia, on the way from Dubrovnik- Belgrade, with assignment; that they put in the New's paper, what they made for; out on the wall, but how I handed over them, so is that "Dissappea-red" and I never saw them more again!.....

The date was about November 1945, in the Unit, they hold every evening "Political Lectures", and everybody must take part, but one day happened samthing special case; first the date was a few day before the "Election Day", second; they wanted put under the "Padlock" all the soldiers, for whom they know's that they belonged to the "Reactionery Movement", so, they don't told anybody about, but that afternoon, (after dinner), they assembled all the people in the unit, and also they changed the soldiers who were on the "Guard's duty, with the soldiers from their part, so we were about 500 people in the Unit, we have a very large assmby room, where they can assemble all the people, so that some of the people were seeting on the bank's, and some are standing in the room, and from us nobo-dy know's what they prepare for this evening! But, I feel, that it will be some kind of "Celebration" (only for who?), samthing "Unex-pected"!, so, the Ceremony start about 6 p.m. some people most of them the youth "Comsomolcy", they start to "dance" in the middle of the room, the others are seating on the bench, I was seating in the second row, and for a moment; I remembered a name with address from my friend in "Palestine", and I took my note book from my po-cket, and start to note the name and the address, meantime, I obser-ved from behind

close to my arm, who are seating just behind me, pay attention on my move, but I didn't turn back, and when I finished, I put the note back in the same place in my pocket, and continued to pay attention on other people. This program holded till about 8 p.m. and till that time they assembled all the people, they pay special attention on the people who are not for their :Party", that they must be nere that evening, and all the Officer staff, and without that the people pay special attention that they preper some kind of "Surprise" for some people "Like me"!

I saw when enter in the hall the "Big Commesar" Colonel in rang, he was the most "Power" in all the Unit (he had biger and higher power than the unit Colonel Commandant!

After a few minutes, start be "Dead' Silence" the political Commesar stand in the middle of the hall, and when he was sure, that he can hear also the "Fly", he started with his "Speech!... (for instance) I enter this hall without you pay special attention on me...and I was very proud, because I want see without that you know's that I am here.....how you live and what are you doing in time, when you are "FREE"..... and I saw; that you are dancing and "Shanting"...but; my friend's.....he started the "Politic" in the world is so... and so....and also here between us, it is not everything in order.... because,..between us we have good people, and also less good people.....the good people they are those who are in his whole "hearth Communist Compasionate", because only like that he can "Contribute" for the "workers Proletariat", and be free from the "Bourgeoisie", and we; the "Communist Party", we must save the "world Proletariat",and so... and so... This speech hold till 10 p.m.; when "SUDENTLY" start to "Atack" the people here in this "UNIT", he told; yes my friend's; we have between us people who make themselves "Loyal to the Communist Movement"! but, that's not "True"; they are false, they want only to cam in, and "Discord us", for that my friend's we must "Fight" against this people, and you must know; that we have between us many of them!.. and we must "Destruckt them;" here on this place.....and, in this moment somebody from behind, "Jump" on the banck, where this person was seating till now, and he start; "Yes my friend's, we have here between us somebody who e verytime when we have the party he "Play on the Violine" yes,.....

we want see him.....this man was a "Commercial Student" from "Monte Negro" Yugoslavia, and he was together with me chossed in the Central Cultural Commitee, with the assigment; that he play's on his "Violine" on the party's, and than the "Crowd" asked; we want to see him....After that the "Young Commsomolac who was told about this man; he "Sting" him in the "Rib's, so he gave him to know; that he is the person about whom is the case!... So, he stand up on the bank, and after that, they asked him to walk in the middle of the hall so, everybody, can saw him!.....

After this "Scene", the big "Boss Commesar", took again the word's; and he continued....Yes my friend's.....and again the "REACTION",....and again the only the "Communist...and so,.... and so.....after this "Theatre", they call the Officer in duty, he came, and he just pull out his "GUN-PISTOL" and Pointed to his "Head" (Of this person),and the officer gave the order; "AHEAD" to the Prison,(jail)Forward", and the crowd start to jump and "SCRIMMING", exactly like the wild i n the wood (forest), this play last about one hrs; and after that continued the same scene,"Progress", the same system, now is on the line; one whos parent's owned a "Cinema"(movie), and he was going through on the same "Torture", and also to the jail,...so went all the night, till about 2 a.m., after middnight in the morning; "Now I was coming on the line"l was the 8th; for me they told; that I was in the "Royale Yugoslav Army, and than approach me this man; who are seating behind me, and took from my pocket this note-boock, and handed over to the big "Commesar"; he took that; and turn, he took upside-down, and again turn up and down, and by the end; he start to read! and told to the "Crowd"; yes my friend's; we have here samthing "Special"; he wrote here on a "Secret Letters", samthing what we can't read! so; the same thng's happen with me too!..... also with the "Pistol" pointed to my head; and ordered under the gun point, to go to the "Prison!....

After they "Created" before started that "Theatre", because before they don't hold people like prisoners in the camp, so, that about 6 a.m. i n the morning, we were about 14 person's (prisoniers) in the room, what they make this time for us like "Temporary Prison"....

After that; we hear; (because we were 2 store down, in the hall, they started to sing and dancing, after they "Destruct the

"ENEMY"

the celebration held till 8 a.m.. After that are everything "Calm Cilence!.....

The guard bring us some madraces and the guard were with "arm's", and they put their "Bayonete" on the "Rifle", and so t hey are guarding us.....Also, when somebody asked togo out to the toilet, they also escorted us with the arm's, because we were very important "ENEMY's for the "Communist Party" and very dangerous prisoners!.....

I was sorry, that i can't make some very important picture's from this assembly, this scene.....

The next day; enter in the prison room the "Commesar" from my unit, and told me; hey have nothng against you! and that i must be with patoence; till they make me free! The same day we succeed to let know's for all our family, what it happen with us so; after two day's also from very far cities, the parent's are coming and they make complain's, but that is true! that they have not to whom to complain! After a few day's in the "Country", they the "Election day", for that they was interested to put us in the prison..... This time was the "Election for the "President Tito", so, we decided in the prison also to play the "Election day;" we put two boxes on the door, one was for "TITO" and the other was for "NO NAME": the "EMPTY VOTES", but i am sorry, till outside everybody voted for "President Tito", but; by us i n the prison the empty box take the "PRIORITY", because everybody voted for the "EMPTY BOX" contra of the outside, outside everybody must give his vote for "Presudent Tito", because if no! than next day the "Party, refuse the food distribution from the people, and also the food stamp's and the "Secret Police are Watched them".

After the election day, again came the "Commesar of the Unit to me; and told me;(meantime we hear), it was in the new's paper that; the Yugoslav government made decission to demobilise the soldiers born i n year from 1911-1916, so; that I was in this categorie and, so that in a few days, they will (discharge) me from the military service, because of my age!.....

Three days after that; the Commesar came, and took me to the Unit office, and they gave me a peace of paper (document), that; I am discharged from the "ARMY".....

So, I took my kit-bag and went home to my sester, but with that

"PERFORMANCE" it was not the end! because; when I came home; after a few day's, I started to looking after some job; and because; in the Army I was us a driver, and like that, after the war-time, that was the best job in the country, by the government, and because here in this country you have not private company's so, I went to the "VEHICLES AUTHORITY" office to make application for became a drive licence, because only with military driver licence you can't drive in the private life. So, when I came to the licence office, and feel the application, they asked me; where are your "HONESTY CHARACTERISTIC RECORD?" from the ARMY? I told them; that I came from the Army, and till now I didn't received that, so; I went back to the Army officials, and asked for that document, they told me; come after two day's so, I came after two day's, and that is happen a few times, that they told me come after some day's, till I explain to my sister; that if they turn me again down, than I will write a letter and make direct complain to "PRESIDENT TITO", and I will explain all my story!.....

In begin I was very "N A I V", and was thinking; that I will have some help from "TITO" so, the next day I went again, but mean-time I preper the letter so, when I enter the Army Office, and came before the "ARMY POLITICAL COMMESAR COLONEL" (Colonel in his rank), and I start explain; what for I am here! He answered me nothing! "BUT START TO BEAT ME", and told me; here you have your "HONESTY"! (the characteristic), and throw me out from the office!....

After that behave from the side of a "VERY HIGH YUGOSLAV COMMUNIST COLONEL COMMESAR ARMY OFFICER", who must give the display of a gentleman and officer, who must demonstarte the right "COMMUNIST-SYSTEM"! I was very surprised, and dont saw another solution than; to take that letter what I preper before and to bring direct to; "MARSHAL TITO", and what happened;.....After about 1 hrs. I came to the officer, who was there with his office building before the "TITO WHITE HOUSE"; so, I came in the office, and I explain everything to the officer; and asked; that he hand over that letter to "MARSHAL TITO", meantime he took the phone, and call this officer who beat me, and he told him; that he will be in big "TROUBLE", because of this case so, when he heared about me, he asked from this officer; to hold me back, till he send a guard to arrest me! And

the officer start to explain to his college; that I am a "SABOTEUR" and a "REACTIONER, ANTY COMMUNIST", so, he dont leave me to go out, because this officer promissed him; that he will send right away a group of "ARMED GUARD" to pick me up!....

After a few minute arrived about 10 very "ARMED" soldiers with a "ARMORED CAR", and they picked me up, and brought me direct to the "ARMY PRISON".

The same day, I succeeded to send some word's to my sister, where I informed her about what happened with me! so, the next day my sister visited the Army Officer; and asked him for information; why he beat me? and why he behaved like that? "HE LIES" to my sister, that he was beating me! and he told her; that I show mayself not "LOYAL" to this "PARTY", and that; I am a "DESTRUCTOR" of the "COMMUNIST IDEA", and he will send me to a place, where I will have enough time to "RECOVERY" and perhaps change my "MIND".....

The next day, came a guard and told me; be ready because I have order to escort you to the city of "KRAGUJEVAC", where are more people like you so, we went to the train station, and after a short time about 1 hrs. traveling, we arrived to the city, there was a big camp, (building) with many "HUNDRED's of SOLDIERS FROM EVERYWHERE IN THIS ERIE", but all people who can't be loyal with this "REGIME", mostly were student's and other "INTELECTUALS". When we arrived, just I saw what is the situation! because in first day, they send us to load and unload the trains with many kind's of good's for animals so, I started to "ORGANIZE" a few friend's student's to make some kind of "CULTURAL CENTER" for the people who are in this "WORKERS UNIT", but the realy name was; "DISCIPLIN BATALION", to act in "ACCORDANCE WITH RULES-DRILL, MILITARY DISCIPLINE"

What is the "SENSE" of "DISCIPLIN BATALION UNIT"

Because in the Yugoslav Tito's Army in that time, assembled many, and from all the territory of Yugoslavia the young people, who are in their age to serve in the Army, and with example to contribute for Liberation the country what the enemy (German's) occupied, but because the people who are in that Army, they don't thinking all EQUAL, and for that happens, that between this soldiers you can find also who are thinking in other ways in case of "POLITICS" and for many of this soldiers was a big surprise the behaviour of the mili-

tary commanding stuff's, because; they wanted in a very short time to change the feeling in political meaning for all the people who are served in their Unit's because; in that time all the Yugoslav Army with their High Command were Communist minded, and they wanted transfer their political idea to all their soldiers, but; that was not so easy because; between this people were also who are thinking differently, and this people can't accept their Communist Ideology, and the Commanding Officer's know's who this people are, and for that purpose's, the High Command in Belgrade decided to "Punish" the young soluiers and they (the Command) organised a "SPECIAL UNIT") in military uniform's but without "Arms" with assignment: that they must working every kind of works for the Army; like, load and unload train's on the train station's and ship's in the ship-yard's, from early morning till late evening, day after day in the biggest cold or rain, and the food was like for the other soldiers in the Army, but for sleeping; without bed's., only on plank's, 250 soldiers in a room..... and in evening after the work, we have to assembly, and the Commanding Officer make every evening speeches about the Communist idea, their achievement's and their work, and that everybody who are thinking and "Conduct" on that, and who are thinking in another way, they are all "ENEMIS" of the Communist Party" and their "Achievement's, and for that, everybody must work very hard and to show; that they are educated now in "Communist Spirit"....

This kind of speeches continued every evening, because; they wanted implant in everybody the Communist spirit and ideology!..

I think, that this kind of "Punishment" was much more against the Authorities, because they don't behave with this soldiers like a "Equal person", only because they are thinking in another form what was good for their future!.....

We was forced to take over their system of thinking and life, but that was very "Fals", because everybody in their "Hearth" feel quite in another way, and for that time, what we are forced to serve in that "Punitive Expedition", we don't care, because we know's that one day we will reach that moment when we will get our "Freedom"

So, after everyday work, we start to write like new's paper, and hang on the wals in the corridor of the "Unit Building"

When one day, we received order to move our Unit to another city, "KRALJEVO", this city are all in middle of "SERBIA", where they put us in a large building, together with other soldiers about 5.000, but only we were the "DISCIPLIN BATALION", and all other are regular soldiers with their Unit's.

In our Unit we were about 250 people, and our assignment was to work everywhere, where is necessary in the city, like load and unload the train's, it was very heavy work (job), and very cold!...

First that I decided to start after the regular daily work every night to write the "Letters", and after that I stick on a long ribbon, and the words are; Long live the Communist Party..... Long live Marshal Tito.... Long live the Russian Communist Party..... and....and so.....and so...and many long lives.....

This kind, and after a few day's my Commanding Officer a young of about 20 year of age, he was my Commanding Officer, he gave me the permit to stay inside the Unit, and not to go out to work, only to work on that parolles, because; that was very "POPULAR" in the Army- of the Communist Party, and between the Companies, they make "Competition's, who can write and what more "DIVERS", and in this case I was very "DILLIGENT".....

After some of day's, the Command Officer gave me permission to take to me a few people, who can help me in that work so, I took 3 student's, because they are educated, and because I wanted also write the new's paper for hanging on the wall, and like that we were the best in the building, and many High rang Officer's brought their Unit's to learn from us, (I must remark; that nobody from us in my Cultural Center group was Communist)!...but we must work and behave like we are the best "Communist minding in the Army".... So, after that we preper a play like "THEATRE", what we wanted present in the city's theatre hall so, we received the permission from our Commanding Officer, and we start, that time we needed also a girl actor, so we went to a girl school, and there we find a nice 16 year old girl, and she was ready to take the role to play in our group the part what was in the performance for her. So, in a short time we preper everything and make a rehearse before the Command Officer, and we receiver his permit to present in the city's theatre hall.

When arrived the day of the performance, we sold all our ticket's

and after the performance they the people in the city explained that; it was the best performance in the city in the last few years, but we have a little "POLITIC PROBLEM" too; because we put samthing from "Politic" in the scene, and for that; the Army Commesar's they dont liked, and for that, they took us under presure, but because all the program in behind, were every time under our guard in control, they was our "SPONSOR's so, that we don't afraid, because the blame came on the shoulder of our guard's!.....

Meantime I was also the Command's Officer's secretary in our Unit so; many time he must make a speech before the unit, and he asked me to write for him the text of the speech!.. and also many time's I was forced to read that speech before the Unit.....

In March 1946, we start receive order's about to free the people; and send them back to their Unit's, where from they came; and in that occassion; the Command Officer must write them the Official dossier "RECORD", what they call; "HONESTY", because; without that the people the soldiers were unable to take any job in civil life! Because I feel that on my own "skin"....so, he asked me; that I do that job, because he was analfabet in the office work! but one day, came also the order for mayself, that they realise me from this unit. I told him; that is your job to write for me this document!....So, after that in one occassion, he came to me and asked; that I must tell the true; what for I was send in this unit? Because he start to be suspicious on me! Because in the time of my pressent in this batalion, I show mayself biger Communist than he is! And for what they send me to this unit! Perhaps for punishment? I told him; that I dont know!. and in the same time I asked him if he know's? because like Comman-dant he must know about all the soldiers, what for they send them here!.....

So, after two day's, I received my permission to live that Unit, and I came to Beograd, so my temporary home by my sister, but this time I don't mentioned more the "HONESTY (CHARACTERISTIC)", and I dont want be a driwer, but I know's that I am very short in money so, I decided to by some kind of "Naylon" yarn from what I made bag's for "LADY's for shopping, and I sold them in the "Parfumerie" shop's so, I collected so much, that I have enough that I can start to travel around the country in a few citie's, to see who remained in life from the Jewish people!....

because till I was in the Army, I decided no longer to stay in this Country, and I must make effort to leave what faster I can!... The "QUICKER" the better! So, I went to Novi Sad, where I find a young friend of mine, his name is Gross Ichack, I know him from the Summer camp of "Betar" movement.

When I arrived to Novi Sad, it was evening, and now I was walking on the street in the center of the city, looking for a hotel, where I can stay over the night, on that way I observe a couple, a young boy with a girl, and how I passed them; I recognize the voice of one of my friend; his name "Laslo", I leave them to pass, but after about 20 feet, I turned, and call him on the name, and in this moment he turned to my direction, now I was sure that I recognize him, so we start to approach each other, we were very happy to meet and also the girl I recognize, so we escort her to her home, and after he invited me to his house for the night, but he asked me; that before his father, who are also at home, that I don't mention that I came from Palestine!.....

The next day I visited this my friend Gross, and I told him; about my plan, (program), and I explained him; that if I find some Jewish people, who survive this war, I am ready to take them with me to Palestine, because I decided to go back!...

This young friend of mine, he was appointed from the Jewish authorities in Novi Sad, for welcome the Jewish Immigrants, who are crossing the Yugoslav border, on the way to Palestine, and also he was appointed from the Yugoslav authorities, so in the first time I joined to his work with my help!.....

After a time, I came to visit the city of Zagreb; that was in April 1946, on my lucky astonishment, I meet with one of my best friend from before the war, his name is Henri (Hanoach) Goldshtein. I was very happy to see him in life, because he was the only who remainder in life after liberation of the "DEATH CAMP of JASENOVAC" near the city of Zagreb, between many hundred's of thousands, who remainder in life after liberation. He explained me how he survive the last days in the "DEATH CAMP", he told me; how he pulled himself into the "CHIMNEY" of the camp, where he remained some days without food and water, and he came out, when he observe and hear; that is everything very silence all around, so he save himself from the "D E A T H".

After that I went to other cities like; Osijek, Varazdin, Senta, Ada, Stara Kanjiza, Sombor, Stari Becej, and many others.....

In Senta I let know the family Weinberger, they have 3 girls, and one son, (boy), another family Stern, also they have 1 girl and 1 son, in Novi Sad I meet with other young people, and when I talked with them; they told me; that they are ready to accompany me to travel to Palestine.....

In Novi Sad I assembled about 40 young boys and girls, who was ready to come with, and this time I made a program; to try to lead this group of people in direction to Palestine through; Zagreb-Susak, on the Yugoslav-Italian border, and in the night walk across the border's so; that the guard's on the Yugoslav side can catch us and arrest, and then make a statement; that we came from Hungary, and our direction are to come to Italia, and from there to Palestine!... But, between, I start to thinking again and again, about all this movement with the young people! I find; that the idea is not so easy; because; to start to move on that way, with a group of young people, that is a big "RISK", not so for me, than more for them,! And take responsibility, what I can't take on my shoulder, because I know; that I have in this "COUNTRY" a wrong "RECORD", so; I decided to cancel the program, and I recommended for the people; to take other way; and that way are; in group of 4-5 person's with direction; "Hungary-Buda Pest", to cross the border with help of one person who was ready for a sum of money to lead the groups through the border, and accompany the groups who were on the way to Palestine!.....

CHAPTER XVI

I get know through this friend of mine from Novi Sad, a man who lived in Subotica, close to the Hungarian border so, I prepared a meeting with this person, together with my friend Gross, and we make a "AGREEMENT" that; this person will escort the group's through the Yugoslav-Hungarian border, and all the groups will make effort's to arrive to Buda-Pest, where they can find many Immigrant's, who are assembled there for travel to Palestine. So, I decided to take with me for the first group; the boys are; Weinberger Josep, Stern David, Waxman Josef and Grosepais Israel, and on the way two more people are joined to us!

So, one night; without moon-light, with this person from Subotica, we cross the border to Hungary very easy, and without problem, were we after two day's arrived to Buda-Pest, and there we find many other Immigrant's from all around the Countries!...

The date was about 15 of Juny 1946, when we arrived to Buda-Pest, we start to looking some connection with the Jewish Leaders in the building of a big school of the city, because they are leading and directed the group's of the Immigrant's to Palestine, I find them! But; they told me; if you have not money, then you must make registration, and you can go only, when your time will come! I told them that is all right, but to my friends I told; that we must be on the guard, and when we see the first group transport will start to depart, we will connect them, without their assent!...So we do, late in the night I hear; that one group of about 800 people (Immigrant's) have to move early morning with direction Buda-Pest-VIENNA (Austria), and they must be on the train station about 7 a.m. so, I told my friend's; all you can go to sleep, and I will get you up on the time so; we can connect this group.

Exactly 4 a.m. in the morning, I awake them, and five minute after everybody was ready for walking to the train station, where we arrived about 7 a.m. and we walked into the train, and mixed with the other Immigrant's and took place so, about 8 a.m. the train start to move, I told to my friend's how we succeeded in our plan so, the next day afternoon we arrived to "VIENNA", where the track's from the "Red Cross" are waiting for us, and they took us to the "ROTSCHILD-

HOSPITAL", where was the "Center" of the Jewish Imigrant's in Austria". I must remark that; when we came to Hungary-Austria border, the Russian guard make the control on the train, but they don't make any problem for us, and this train was feeled only with Jewish Imigrant's.

The life in the Rotshield Hospital was not so bad, the hospital was prepared for the Jewish Imigrant's, and was under the U.S.A. protection and the "JOINT", the Jewish yount Betar, we made every morning gimnastic and other exercises, so one day in morning we make attention; that a large group of American soldiers enter in the yard of the Hospital, with their track's, and some of the soldiers jumped on the floor's of the building, where our room's are, and without warning us; they start "THROW" our kit-bag's through the window's on the track's, and when they finished; they order us to go on the track's Lether we hear, it was with us in the Hospital also a Jewish group "Leftist Communist group's, and they complained by the American's about our "Egzercises every morning, and for that they punish us, and put us on the train and send us without that we know's to; Salzburg (Austria), where we arrived the same day before faal the dark.

There also are waiting us the track's of the "RED CROSS" and they transported us in a big school building, what the authorities arranged for the Imigrant's in connection with the "JOINT", we stayed there mayby two week's, when one day again we received order; but now, from the Jewish Leader's, to be ready for move so, we came with the track's to the train station, and just enter the train, and after a few minute the train start to move so, we travelled all the night, but we don't feel, that we crossed the German border, and early afternoon the train unexpectedly stoped by a small train station, it was a very strong rain faal, and we saw ; that the train engine leave us, so after the rain, we came out and start looking where we are? We were about 3 hrs with the train far from "MINCHEN" (Germany), because between us were also many women and children and old people, so the leader of the group's start to search for places, where to put this people, we was lucky, because not so far stationed the camp of the "RED CROSS" with their camp's, and we let them know about the people, kids, women and old people. This time I was the leader of about 200 people in my group so, after a very short time, they arrived with their trak's

and pick them all up, who wanted go with them to their camp.

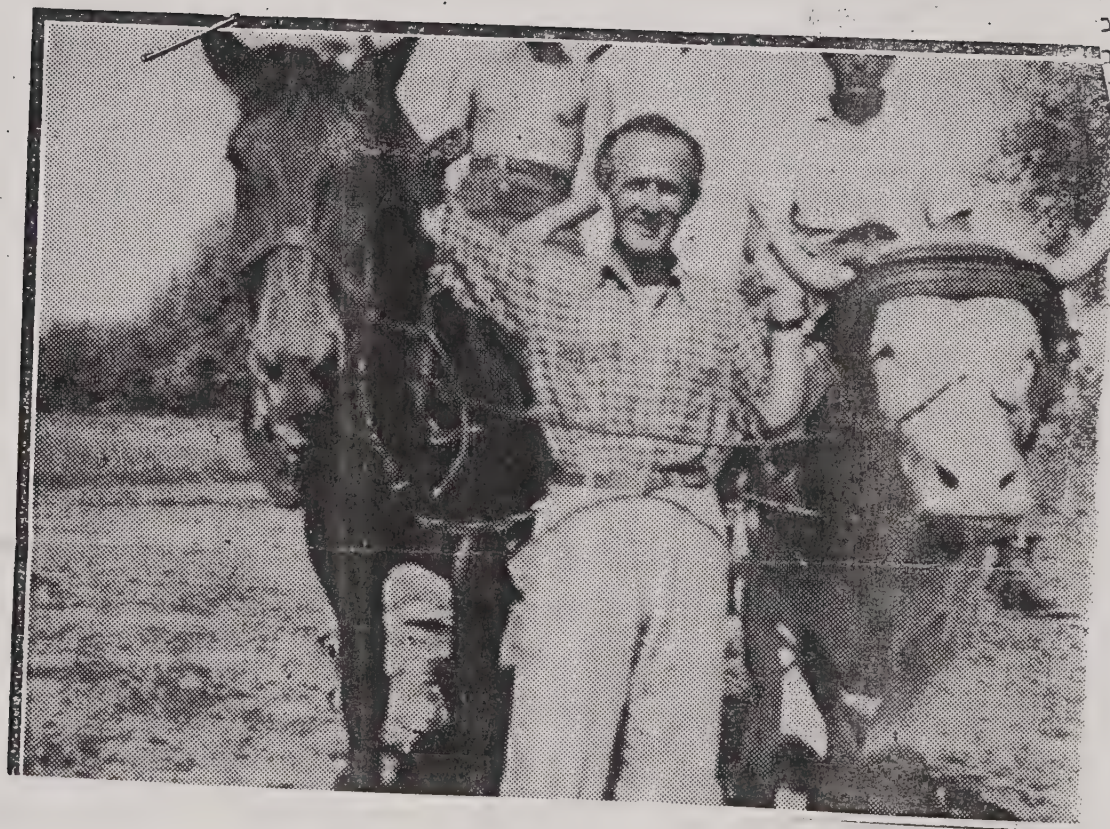
Meantime I talked in telephone with the office of my Organisation in "Munchen", and asked instruction for me and my people about 200, for whom meantime I was responsible. So, before evening we have the regular train, and we took ticket's and went to "Feldafing", there were many Immigrant groups, and next day I went alone to "Munchen, where my people are waiting for me on the train station. Because I was never in this city, and like that; what was so "Destructed" from the Bombardment's" most of the train station too.....so; that it was not easily to walk, but the people who are waiting for me, they took a cab, and in a few minutes we arrived to their office. There we talked all about the situation all the night so, that we don't have time to sleep!.....

Between, they asked me to stay here in Germany, and take over the "Chachshara" in "Walcheim", because, that day's will depart the group from there, who were till now in the "Chachshara", because they are on the way to "Palestine", but I refused, because I wanted be what faster back in Palestine to.....

So, I told them; that I will stay here only till I have chance to continue my way, meantime I took part in I.Z.L work.....

Before that I made plan to go through Italia, but after a short time I changed the direction, and made another plan with direction through "France"....

It was about 1st of August 1946, when I took my 5 friend's whom I brought from Yugoslavia, first I make the travel plan to "Carlsruhe"(Germany), because there is the border on dry territory.... I received in Munchen the addresses to whom to report on the way, and who can, to give me (us) some help if we needed, like food, room for resting, to give direction for farther way.....so, when we arrived to that city, we at once, went to that address, and told them about our plan, and direction; but they advise us; that on that way will be very dangerous, because on both sides "Germany-French authorities be very strong the border, because of the "Smugler's" so; that we listen their advise, and we changed the direction so; that we took the way to "Baden-Baden-Kel" we have in mind; that we will travel with the "Express" train and we will try to pass over the border by the city of "Kel-Starssbourg-Paris" (France), but city's are close to the border, and if the authorities will ask us about



IN THE AGRICULTURAL FARM IN GERMANY
"WALHEIM" 1946

the passport's or any other document's for passing the border, we would show them our "DP" card's and tell them; that we are looking for our families, and so try go ahead, direction "Paris" but on the idea it was easy, but practically it was a problem, because; when we came to train station of "Kel" the train stoped because that is the end station on the German side, and the authority's make the passport control, and if it is everything all right; than the train can pass the border so, when the control came to us, we show them our "DP" card's; and we told them; that we are searching for our families, and that is our goal, but we can't persuade them, so, they forced us down, but they gave us the idea; that we go back to "Baden Baden" and there looking by the authorities permit for crossing the border so; we came back, with next train to "Baden-Baden", because for money we can't bay anything's for food, so we changed some of our clothes, like blanket's or shirt's for food.

While we came back, we try another chance too;..Because the River "Rayna" was not so far, I decided and advice to my friend's to try crossing the River; because the River was the border of the two countries so; I decided with one of my friends to go to the river and took a look; how is the situation there ? so; we took the map's and start to study, and we find the closest way; how to come to the river, for that we get up early morning and start on the way, for patrol, to see if is some possibilities to cross the river and how? and how is the situation on the other side of the border ?... The next day morning, I with one of my friend start on the way... we walked about 3 hrs; till we come to the river, than we observe that we are by the "Famouse" "Siegfried line bunker's", and just very close is the river, and than we saw also the other side the other "Famouse" "Maginot line", that are "Bunker's" with very wide wall's and only a little above the terraine ground, on the way, we don't meet anybody, so we don't afraid enter the "Bunker's" and because; this were all empty, and same picture was on the other side, but, the river! I was "worried", it was wide, and about 250 yard's wide, and what worried me: that it was very-very fast, vlike the river "Drina" in Yugoslavia (Bosnia), and it was very "Meanders", and how I rememberer; not all of us were very good "Swimmers", and all around we don't saw any small or large boath, with eventual we can cross the river!

So, when I saw all that, I told to my friend; that we can go back and we don't try to cross....because of danger that somebody from us can be drowned, and we are so few, that I can't took the "RISK". So we walked back, and explained everything to the other boys.

It was evening when we arrived back, and the same evening we took again the map's and start again study what to do!...and How?..

We decided to rest one more day in this city of "Baden-Baden", and during the day we make effort to purchase or changes for food, because in the city was everything short in food, and we have not food stamp's, so the next day, we took the train to; "Saarbrücken" because this city is also close to the border, and we have not the difficulties with the river's, and perhaps on dry, we can cross to other side the border.....

The city if of "Saarbrücken" were also all "Destroyed" from the English-American bombardment's, and was very difficult for walking between the "RUINS", and find something like offices and....and... but on the end we find everything and everywhere, what we are searching. So; we find where to eat, and also where to rest over the night. For the baggage it was not big problem; first we have not so much, second, we put everything together, and make only one bag, so that we take this bag to the train station, we buy a ticket for the train "EXPRESS" to PARIS, and with this ticket we hand over the bag like "Mitgepack" to Paris; so, that if we will arrive to Paris, that we can pick up so, we make for us more easy for the way for walking over the border.....

The next day how we are walking on the street's of "Saarbrücken" unexpectedly, we go by along some gay, and when we were close, he told us "AM-HO", on our way, first time we hear that word! what's mean; "YOU ARE FROM MY PEOPLE?" but that is on "YIDISH", and we turn to him and answered "AM-HO", so; this word are the sign if you don't know somebody, but you want to know! if he is a Jewish! So, we stoped and start to talk, this person was born in "POLAND"(Polania), he was between the "SURVIVED" Jewish, red hair, short, but very strong in body, so; from that time we dont separated, because he was alone and was looking for somebody for some friend's, and his program was the same, he want also go to Palestine! We took him in our group... and from that time we were everywhere together.....

When we arrived to "SAARBRÜCKEN", we decided not to take our

kit-bag-s with, so we put that in the train station for guard, so we were free from the baggage....

This friend advice us; that exist some park, where we can find many German youth, who are ready to lead us across the border.... because they know the way, and they are ready to do that for some "American cigarettes", and we are in possession, because on the way, the best money was the cigarettes, and how we are not smoking so we don't need, for that we take care! so that we have in case of the need, and in this situation you never know's where you can use that like money!.....

I must mention; when we start on the way; because of high inflation in all of the countries where we are passed, we decided in Yugoslavia to purchase some cigarettes, because for "Dinar" (the Yugoslav money) we knew's, that we can't buy anything, and when we crossed the Yugoslav border, in the first small village "Lach-Almas" we changed the cigarettes for "EGG's" because; they told us; that in "Buda-Pest" they are in shortage with the food, and much better that the cigarettes, so, and also in "Buda-Pest" we changed the Egg's back for cigarettes, but now for the American, and so all the way we hold the cigarettes like "Means of payment", and really; when we arrived to this park; after a few minutes, we observe a young German person approach us, and seat down close to us on the bank, one of us took out a "Lucky Strike" cigarette, and start to smoke, than, because I knew the German language; I asked; where he lives and what he work's, and...and.....after we know each other, I asked if he ready to lead us across the border? because, we want go to the city of "For-Bach" (French Territory), that is the next small city over the border, and for that, we will give him a whole packet of "Lucky-Strike" cigarettes, but only if he lead us on the right way! So, he promised; because we make plan for the next day evening, and he was ready, and promised to be on the place about 7 p.m., and for the test; we hand him over one cigarette, that he feel how good is that!.....

CHAPTER XVII

After that we walked away, and we study a little all this area, and we were on the way to the place where we rested during the night.

In our hotel room, we took the map's and start study where we are; and which way to continue so; that we took the direction "Forbach-Metz-Paris; but meantime we decided; that the kit-bag we will put together so, that we have only one bag.

So, we decided next day go to the train station, and take only one ticket for the express train "Saarbrücken-Paris", and then we hand over the kit-bag like "Metgepack", but we send only the kit-bag ahead, so that the baggage will arrive to "Paris" next day, and they will put that in the garderobe, till we arrive, and so we do!..

What can happen? We are still here, and the baggage will be in "Paris"!.....we must try on this way!...After that we walked all the day till before evening; when about 7 p/m; came to the place as we agreed, and after a few minute the German youth arrived.... We are seating till faal the dark, and than we can and start to move to the hill, because all around were mountains. When we arrived to the forest; I told to my friend's; to walk one behind other so; that if happen samthing unexpected situation; that we can't faal in the trap!...I walked with the German boy, we dont talked all the way, and so we arrived to the place, from where we can see a little downstars the way, we stoped, and the German boy explained us; don't afraid, because in this time (it was about midnight),nobody walk in this arie! Only sometimes passed over on the feet the French patrol so; that, showed us the other side of the high way, that belong to the "French territory",after that I gave him the promised "Packet cigarettes" and he leifr!.....

After that we rest a few minute, and than we start go down the hill, and just we arrived on the high way, but we took the right side of the way and also on the side so, if somebody came on the way, that we can jump to the bush!....so that nobody can see us... After perhaps five minute of walking, unexpectedly, but we are thinking on that, we hear about two people are walking on the opposit side of our way, in this moment we throw us on the side into the bush, and we rested there till we saw two "SILHUETE"(shadow)

are walking in the middle of the way, but we saw only like in the shadow, exactly we don't see them, because it was very dark night, before the moonlight came out, but they also talked very quietly, and they don't observe us, so we are lying till they don't move away. When they were about 200 yard's, we came slowly, and took one hand the other's and so slowly we enter deep in the forrest, and after we seat down, and start very slowly to talk, When again happen samthing; but now between us!...Unexpectedly the red hair Polish friend (his name was Moshe), start to "SCREEN" with this word's; "MISYOU-MISYOU" (like mister), "Lasen sie uns hiraus zugehen"!wier wholen sich unz uberzugeben"!(that's means;) that we asked them;(the patrol), that they let us come out, because we want us hand over!).....

When we hear that! we were all like a "TIGAR", and all jumped on this man so; we are afraid, that the patrol hear us, but other side I was sure; that nobody want enter in this forrest in middle of the night, where you can't see finger before your eye!....but we are all "SHAKED FROM FRIGHT"...

So in the fear humor, we waited the first light on morning, and than we came, and slowly get out from the forrest, we find the way what is between the forrest, and in a short time we came out on the high way, and also we meet some workers, who are walking to their dayly job's.....

Now we start to walk two by two in line one after other, and about 2-3 hundred meter's behind,...so that if happen samthing unexpectedly, for what we put attention, so that the others can on the time enter in the forrest and disappear, because on the both side of the way weer forrest's and so hiding themselves....

It was about 10 a/m. When I saw the French guard on the was before us, and we and the other two, who was walking with me, approach them and asked (because we have not other choice) them; how we can came to "SANTA WOLD"?.. They asked us for our identification, that we show them our "D.P." card so, they advice us to enter in the forrest, because; that is German territory, or; to go back to "FOR-BACH", where we can travel with the track's along the way, and like that, we can cross the way, because the high way belonged to the "FRENCH AUTHORITIES", meantime; the two other our friend's, they saw us when we stoped, and started talk with the patrol,

they just jumped on the side in the forrest, and disappeared, they went till the first German village where they stoped for all the day and during the night.

We take advice from the patrol, and enter into the forrest and start to walk like we are going back, and in the forrest we also meet two other patrol's, but they saw us when we talked on the patrol station so; now they don't asked us nothing, when we passed them, we just seat down on a banch what we find on the side so, after perhaps a half a hrs; we are talking about the our other friend's who escaped from the sight distance, and we were very worry about them! When we observe one young German boy approach us; we gave him a cigarette, and start to ask about the way to "SANTA-WOLD" he explained us; that we must walk fast now, because now is exactly noon, and the patrol, they went to their station for change the duty so, that till 1 p/m. the erie will be free.....! He show us the way and he disappeared from the view, in a short time we finde ourself in a "VALLEY", where was many railway lines, and not so far also a small train station, we crossed the lines of tra-ilway's and after a half hrs. crossing, we enter again in the forrest, where we stoped and rested a little....

I took the map's and saw that we are in the "RUHR" erie, where are the large "COAL MINE's", because we are short with food, so I gave to my friend, my shirt, and told him; go to the first house on the side of the forrest, they are not so far, and try to change for some food, it was early afternoon, when he came back, we continued the way, how we walked we meet on the field a man who worked, he was a "Hungarian", so we talked with, he was all the time of the war here, and worked for a French farmer, and he told us; that he want stay here all the time of his life!...

He told us; be careful, because down of the hill is the small vil-lage "SANTA WOLD", and many gandarme walked there, we tank for the warning us, and went away, and we start go down the hill, and we came to the village, but we only crossed, and came to the high way, where we stoped some track's who are driving in direction to the city of "METZ". The first driver stoped his car, and he picked us up, so in the middnight we arrived to the city of "METZ", we make mistake, that we don't asked the driver; if we can stay during the night and rest by his house.....

but because we don't asked, we was forced to walk in the night and searching some place where we can rest during the night, but because it was very late, and we have't money that we can pay for a hotel, so we start looking for a place what is covered, important is; that we have samthing over our head! So, on the way for searching we find a place; a half finish building, what the authorities have prepared build for a market place, so we eneter to the building, and in the dark we find the corner of a room, and we seat down on the floor and rested there over the night.....

In the early morninig we came out, and in near we find water where we wash our face, and so we start to feel much better, because we was all very tired, but all the time we are very worried about the other two our friend's, who are missing before we meet the patrol, But what happened; How we walked and are looking for the address what we received in "SAARBRUCKEN", we were "SURPRISED", because in front of us we saw our two friend's and they are also looking for the same addresse, so we were very happy, that we are again together all!.....

After a few minute, we find the addresse, we knocked on the door, and somebody oppen it, and asked who we are?...We showed him the letter what we have with us, and he invited us to enter in the house, The first was; he preper for all of us a very good and reach breakfast, because; we told him; that we are very hungry! After that we take place in the living room, and start to talk about many things, from the way, and also about Palestine, Israel. So, about noon, he tell us; here you have money for tocket's to Paris, and you have about 2 hrs. for the Express train, go there and you have enough time and money also for a good lunch, and some change for the way, and he gave us also a letter with the addresse, where to make report when we arrive to Paris, so; we was very happy, that we are all together, and we can continue the way to Paris together, and not walking on feet.....But one things we have now; not to worry meantime for the future!....

On August 9 1946, we arrived to Paris, before evening, our baggage were there, but we dont took it out, till we haven't out stady place, where we can stay for long time. We took a cab, and gave him the addresse so; in a few minute we arrived to a small hotel where we stayed one night only.....

All this places were payed by the Jewish Organization in Paris, The next day we connect with our office, and they advice us to change the place where we rested over the night, because the police are visiting this places many times inea day for making control over the Imigrant's who are arriving day and night to the city of Paris, From our organization, we get money for maintenance, and we were not on the street's without money!...Meantime, some organization's offered us more money and better places to live, if we are ready to make application for Imigration to the U.S.A.... But we dont changed our goal so, we rested where we are...

The life in Paris was not so bad.,...We walked all day around the large city of Paris, it was different from the other cities in other countries, where we were passing through, because this city was not "Destroyed" and in "Ruins" like other cities in Germany and Austria, only they were also short in food, and the show window's were not so ful like before the war time.....

Many-many Imigrant's from all over Europe and other countrie's are walking all around in the city, but the French people lived their regular life like before the war time so, when was in the summer time for their vacation, they closed their bussines for some week's, and went away to the mountain's or on the seashore for vacation....

And one day we received order from our organization to move to "Marseille", South France, and from there to a small very nice turistic place; "LA CITAT", that is a very nice small city with many turistic attraction's, and with his nice seashore ao; after a few days, we arrived to this place, where we find in the transit camp about 800 Imigrant's, who are waithing for the transport to Palestine. We came to this camp about middle of September 1946, and we are waithong every moment for move also to Palestine.....!

About October 20, 1946, one rainy day arrived some big track's and in a few minutes we were ready to move, they toke us to the side seashort of "LE-CITAT", where there are waithing for us a small boath from "800" -Hrstr, who are rebuilding and remodelled for transport of Imigrant's to Palestine.!.....

About this small boath, that boath perhaps before, was something like fish boatn, and without any comfort inside, but for purpose what for they want to used now; the owners must rebuild and remodeled, because for transport so many Jewish Imigrant's who "Survive" the "Hollocaust", and wanted arrive the coast of "Palestine (Israel)", were they wanted continue their life like "Jewish" in a free Country so; they loaded the ship with "1.300 Jewish Imigrant's, so the ship was loaded also with enough food. I don't remember exactly the day; but it was raining, and was very cold so; before we have to move the boath, I think it was pre-loaded, and he was lie on an "under-water ston" so we can't move from the place!When our mariner's start the ingine, After perhaps two hrs; we asked help from the port authorities so; they helped with towing ship, they tow us down from the ston, but we get a "HOLE " so; that all the way of 12 days of voyage, our people worked very-very hard....day and night to pump out the water, what is flowing into the ship all the time so; that we all that way of voyage, we are sailling without balance, and everytime we must watch that the people stay equal on every side, because; it was very dangerous, that we don't turn over!.....and because all the time we were leaned on one side!.....

The name of the new rebuildled ship was; "LATRUN", that name belonged to the camp by village of " LATRUN" in Palestine, where the British authorities are kiping "Holded" the Jewish "Polítical" leader's, and from there, they "Intern them to "EXIL" to "ERYTREA" "Africa"...

The next day it was claudy but without rain, and slowly we passed the Island o "Corsica", and after also the island of "Sardinia", and after three days of sailling, we cross the Island of "Sicilia" =pass, in very nice sunshine day, so that the sea was quite, and stright like mirror, til we don't arrived closs to the Island of "Crette", what belonged to "Grece", and on the way unexpectly start very strong wind and start to throw the small boath with 1300 Imigrant's like a small "BALL", so that, all the large pot's, what we instaled on the deck of the ship for coocing, and turned them over with the food, what was prepared for the people, in the first time we afraided from the fire!...and thst time we also lost our speedometer, what we are pulling in the water behind the boath!.....

This very-very bad wether last a few hrs, we also know's that the sea arround the Island of "Crete" is every time very dangerous, but we survive that is thtrue!...that with many yroub-le!..... Because on the boath vere many kid's and many pregmant women's, but thank's "God", everything passed all right!.....

About October 31, we approached the island of "Cyprus", and slowly we are sailing arround the Island, and on 1 of November 1946, early afternoon, we observe unexpectly "two war air-pals's with their basses in "Cyprus", very-very low flaying so; we cant hear before they arrived to us! And than they took over us and make a turn, and again over us so; theu observe us and in the same time we all who are on the deck of the ship, we jumped under some shadow's so; that they can't so easilly recognise that perhaps lmi-grant's are on the ship, that was about ; between "Byrouth Lebanon" and the Island of "Cyprus", we know's that they observe us and we have not other choice; that if is necessary to fight with the English (British) authorities!.....

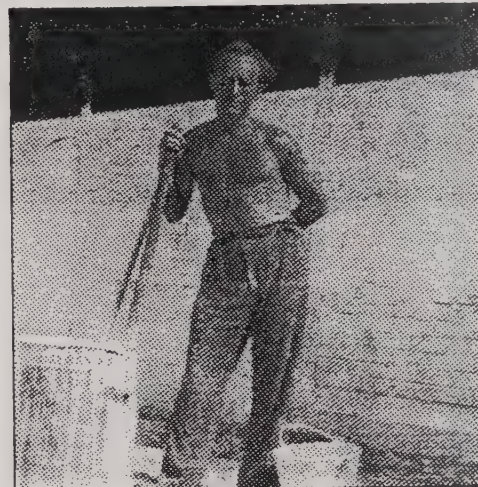
Then we start on the way; we make the plan so; that we arrive to Palestine exactly on 2ond of November 1946, when is the day of "Balfour Declaration" so; we continued to saill all the night,when again in the very dark night, because, that was without the moon-light, the British War ship's surprised us; they approached us very closs, and from once, they oppened their ful "Light", and start to ask us; through microfone; who we are? where we are sailling? how many people we have on the board, and why we are lean on one side?...and if we need some help??. Our Commandant of the ship, one of the "Hagana" leader, he answered; that we have hole on the boath, and we are sailling to "Abesinia" Africa:, and that we dont need any help: so, they leave us, and went so quiet how they are comming, and we continued to saill toward Palestine.....

And now we were not so far: because we were not so far; we seilled very slowly, and when start be morning, from far we saw "HAIFA", the big city of Palestine on the coast of the Mediterranien sea, but from other side we observe also two British War ship's, and we know's also; that they followed us during all the night. And, now we put in full strenght our engines, and also started throwing in the sea; first; many empty boxes from the food what we used during the sailling, after that also full boxes and full bag's with

potato's, meantime on our right side (because of our left side was the Palestine seashore), we observe now four British War ship's, all were from the "TIP" of "TORPEDO DESTROYER's", and now I remembered also their number's; they are; 42, 24, 32, and 34, I think so? That I am not wrong..... So we are going (sailing) ahead, but we are sailing like we don't care about their NEARBY!...



משה בחווה יהודית בגרמניה ב-1946



משה בבית-המעצר בעתלית לאחר המעבר מקפריסין



משה במחנה האוהלים במעצר בקפריסין ב-1946



משה בבית-חרושת למחים בירושלים של 1941

1946
1947

Start the War between "DAVID and GOLIAT", the fighting for freedom, before the door of "EREC ISRAEL".....

we saw the city of Haifa, we were about 10 mill. in the open sea, and start the "R A C E" we know's that; they are faster from our "poor, old and small lifeboat, but our "HEART are more STRONG" because we are "FORCED to FIGHT" for our LIFE or DEATH", and be "FREE- in OUR LAND" or be in "EXILE".....

" T H E F I G H T S T A R T "
=====

In the mornibg; two of the four War ships approached us; and warning us; that we are by border-seashore of Palestine, and that we can't enter, and better nice, and quiet to "SURRENDER", in this moment one of our saillor's jump into the sea, and start swimm toward the British ship's, because; some of the sailors were not Jewish they were from "Greek"; the Jewish authorities in Europe, they make contractt with not Jewish saillors, to bring the ship to Palestine with the Jewish Imigrant's, when he arrived to thip, they pul him out from the sea. After that they warning us again two times! but without that we are willing to "SURRENDER", after a few minute the two "Destroyer's start to approach us and.....when they was closs enough; they throw first some "Laders", and so they try to "INVade" our boath, but we were on the guard and "ALERT", and e very time we succeeded throw them back from both side's, after; when they saw (because they try three-four times the same manover), that they can't "Capture" us, than they start with the "Water" like the fire fighter's so; that all the fighting hold about 3-4 hrs.; after that they changed their "tack", because also with the water "Spry" they don't succeeded, after that they changed again iighting tacktick, now the "Destroyer's for a change, but also without succeess, meantime some of us about 10 person's (because we didn't have more) we dressed on our fesess "Gas Mask" agaonst in case that they start the "TEAR-GAS" because we are sure, that they will not used their "ARM'S," against the "CHILDREN", PREGNANT WOMEN"s, and OLD PEOPLE", but on the end; they will use the "T I E R G A S" against us!.. and the fighting last till now about 5-6 hrs. And now took part all the four "DESTROY-er's,

and what I can tell you: "On the end, one of the famous "Destroyers" with all his strong, he run in to our boat, and on the side he make a hole size about 2 square-yard, and throw about twenty "Tear Gas Bomb's" between the people inside the boat so, that after this attack we were forced to "SURRENDER".....

Meantime, many of us took the British "Mariner's" and throw them to the sea, so after succeed with the "Tear gas", they succeed to jump on our boat, and again we catch them and throw them over the barriers of the boat into the sea.....

But how long we can fighting ? with so a strong strength like the "British Mariners"...and also four "Famous Destroyers" so, they invaded our boat (ship) and also between, they broken our command bridge:.....

So the British War Machinery succeeded to beat us, and we must under a very strong "Pressure" of the famous British Royale Navy to "Surrender", we was fighting "Heroic" but they show much more "heroism" against the children, old people who survived the "Holocaust", and pregnant women's, so after the "Tear gas" they broken us :!...and we must accept the "Capitulation".....

After all, they pull our boat in the seaport of Haifa, where before, they ordered in all "Haifa and suburb" a full "CURFEW" so, that the Jewish population can't help us!...When we arrived in the seaport of Haifa, there were about 10.000 British soldiers, and they forced us under the armed soldiers to enter to their for war prisoners rebuild large ship to go over, and with that ship they transfered us to the "Island of Cyprus", where we arrived the next morning, meantime, everybody was broken down from the "Tear-gas", and feel this "Reaction" for about two more week's.....

On November 5, 1946 we arrived to the Island of "Cyprus" the British Authorities transfered us to the camp "Famagusta", because there was also another "Refuge camp's for the Jewish imigrant's, in "Larnaca", a another city on the Island, and there were "barack's" and they call winter camp, and our camp was; where they put us; the summer camp, because; they instaled there "Tent's", we were in the camp no; 63, but there was also no;55, 60, 61,62, so that this time we were about 15.000 "Refugees" on the Island, and every camp was separated with high wire fence's, but how we enter the camp; we "Destroyed" that in the first day!...so, we can walking all around the camp's, I mean inside in the camp's, and we were separated on group's, and every group are cooking for his group.....

After that, we have what to do; because I have the addresse of my friend Ovi Loker, who lieved this time with his wife in "Cairo" Egypt, and I inform him that I was in the camp of Cyprus so; the first was; that they send me a packet with some good food, and every kinde of cackes, and they send me also a film for my foto camera what I took care all the time.....

Meantime we took part's of the "Tent's", the women made shirt's pant's and jacket's from the material. I took the roop's and separated the yarn's, after that I colored and make table cover's, bed and pilow coverr's, so we worked during the day, and afternoon we compit in soccer playing, also with the British millitary team's, till one day the political situation changed our "status-quo", with our British guard's, I mean; with the English authorities, because; on the number of "Permit Certificate", for enter to Paleatine so; for this problem they don't want find solution, so we Proclaimeed in all camp's "Hunger Strike," and we made barricades by the door's, and don't permit the enter to the camp's, only for the first aid ambulances, "All the world are informed about our Situation", against the British authorities and their politic, because their behave against the people who "Survive the Nazi Hollocaust", and how they kip us in this camp's like "Refugees", and the same time we start to light fire in all part's of the camp's on the offices, what belonged to the British authorities, where from they managed the life in the camp's.

so, in a few minutes all the "Tent's" in the erie what was separated with wire fences, the British soldiers who was that time inside the "tent's" they succeed to run away, and out from the erie so; from them was nobody wounded..... In a few minutes all the "tent's" was in the high flames, it was a very joyful time and nice performance.....

After that we broken out through the gate's and we meet ourselves outside, eye to eye opposite with the British soldier's, who was to the "teth Armed", with all kind of arm's like "Tank's and "artilery", against the children, women and old people, who are nacked hand's, and they told to the soldiers; "Shies (Shout) if you have Clean Pant's".....So, how we are standing and looking in eye one to the other's, they also received order to put the "Bayonetes" on their rifle's, it was a little bit like in the "Theater so; after perhaps 1-2 hrs; we start to go back into our camp's, but we "Destroyed" all the British offices, so that every thing faal in the fire.....so we show them.....That we don't afraid from nothin! because for our case...we are ready to "DEAD" because the same people once they are standing already before the "same system" of behaving the Hitler Nazis".....they also used the arm's against the unarmed people...and only for that because they want their Free dom in their Home land", but because that is against the British rull-collonial system" so; that the people run out from the camp's and oppened their "Shirt's" and said" to the British soldiers; "SHies-Shout" if you have "Heart" and we stand face to face, and we don't move!..and they don't moved... they are waithing for the orders from their British High Command.. for the "Storm (Assault).....After we withdraw, so, that day was very "Marrilly-Joyfully"....

The next day after this stormy situation, we start our life like nothing happen!...But we know's; that all the World know's about our biterness fight for our "Freedom".

On the end we; our camp, received information; that we can be ready for realise from the camp, and the British will transfer us to palestine, to our "Homeland", because they make rull; that every year, they will realise only 1.500 gefugee's from the camp's so; we were back to Palestine, but this time, the British Authorities "Don't Order a Cerfew", so when we arrived to Palestine, and they

bring us to the temporary camp of "Atlit" in Palestine, from where they realised (discharged) the people after one month.

But with me ????......When we came to the camp of "Atlit", from Haifa arrived the Palestinian office staffs for registration of the new Immigrants.What happens....between the office staffs I recognise one of my friend with whom I was together in the "Royal Yugoslav Army" in Palestine between 1942- and 1944, he served like second lieutenant, he was born in Yugoslavia in Zagreb, and his name was; "Drago Spitzer" he also recognise me too, and we started talking, and I explained him my situation about my way back to Europe, and how I came back again to Palestine.....but he like a "Loyale" to his "Boss" the British Rule".....he handed over my case to his "Chief" so that; they made a big problem about my "realise"I thanked him for this his behavior, because he wants to show how is he loyal to his job,..because I think that he was a British spy in the Jewish Community.....

So, for that what happened, I must stay in the camp of "Atlit" 2 more months, and I handed over to the same person a film what I filmed in the camp of "Cyprus", about the life there, but that film also "disappeared" so; that I never have that back!.....

In the time of this month's what I was forced to stay in the camp, I was started many times with the "Hunger-strike", till one day: they call me and told; that I am "FREE" !!!!!....

So after three months of holding me back from the other my friends Refugees, the camp commandant drove me to "Haifa" to the office of the "SOUMUT", so I received again my "Freedom"

I was again free in our nice and "FREE COUNTRY PALESTINE-ISRAEL"

GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE

حكومة فلسطين
ממשלת פלשתינה (א"י)

DEPARTMENT OF MIGRATION

دائرة الهجرة
מחלקת העליה וההגירה

File No.

Registration Serial No. *44/5814/41*

This is to certify that

LEVI MOSHA
AGE 1914

has/have been ~~granted~~ permission to remain in Palestine as an immigrant under the Immigration Ordinance, 1941

15 Aug 1947

[Signature]
Assistant Commissioner for Migration

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE

FRONTIER CONTROL

HAIFA PORT
المهاجرة لسنة ١٩٤١



DEPARTMENT OF MIGRATION
CONTROL
HAIFA PORT



TEL AVIV RATIONING OFFICE

19/2/2/116
14-10-47

M/45



I R E M E M B E R

The

"A L T A L E N A"

Mahane"JONA"

It happened in June 1948, when we hear about the ship of "Altalena", he was on the way from Europe to Erez Israel, boarded with several hundred's young Emigrant's and Arm's, I with mine friend's received order to assemble in the orchard of Oranges, in Pardes Katz, with the assesment to be ready to walk to Tel Aviv and demonstrating for the realise of the ship, who in the time unloded the Emigrant's in the shore of the village of Kfar Witkin, and because of not achieve the compromise about the Arm's, what was on the ship, so the qwarnit of the ship decide to lead the ship to Tel Aviv, when the Government of Ben Gurion decide to attack the ship and not permit to unlod the Arm's.

When the ship arrived to the shore of Tel Aviv, opposit of the Allenby-Hayarkon street, from the high boulding in Hayarkon street, the soldiers of the Government Ben Gurion, received the ship with very strong fire from kanon's and machine gun's, so, that from the fire the ship cutch fire and the Arm's on the ship start to explode, so that the life of the people who still were on the ship was on verry big danger, but from the shore the soldiers don'r care about the danger, so they continued to fire on the ship with fatal fire and the ship start to sunk.

Meantime we in the camp of Betar received order togo home, and the walking to Tel Aviv was cancelled, because we hear that the Ben Gurion Army controled the city of Tal Aviv, and they patrolling in the city with hawy arm's, alike tank's and canon's, and we don't wanted confrontation with them.

So early afternoon, I arrived to Ramat Gan, to the house of friend's of mine, where I finde a small car, we were 5 friend's and we decide to drive to Tel Aviv looking around what happened, because the high ways were all blockaded, so we used the small side street's, and so we entered the city, on the way we meet with havy armored group's of the "HAGANAh's "CAhal" soldiers, who were armored with machine gun's and other kind's of arm's

patrolling the street's, but how many they watched the street's, we drove all around in small side street's, so, before the dark we arrived close to the "Mugraby" theater building, and we hear many times of shouting from the direction of the sea-shore, we wanted to go through the baricades what the CAHAL put on the corner of the street Ben Yehuda =Allenby, so they not permit for no-body to pass and go in direction of the sea shore, where at that time located the ship "ALTALENA" near the shore, but all in fire, it was also dead victim's and many wounded between the people who still was on the ship, but the attacker's succeeded to evacuate them and send them to the hospital's. When we arrived to corner of Allenby-Ben Yehuda street's, the patrolling soldiers turned us to the street of Ben Yehuda direction to North, when we passed about two block's, we observe in behind us, that a Sherman tank following us, and start shouting in the air, but in our direction, and through the microphone they ordered us to follow them, so we have not other alternatives that listen their order, so they escorted us to the military camp of Mahane"Yona" what belonged to the British Army before they left the Palestine on 15 of May 1948, corner of the Motckin and Hayarkon street's, where is today the building of the Tel Aviv "HILTON" hotel.

They ordered us to drive into the camp and park the car on the side, and just they put a heavy guard's around us, so that we were the prisoner's, who they catch on the street's.

In the first minute, they ordered us in a small room, of a barack, and just put by the door two soldiers with their heavy machine guns and pointed on the closed door, and they told us; if somebody try to escape, they will shout and kill that person.

After about 1-2 hrs. somebody from their command officer enter in our room and took from all of us our names, and after they call us one by one with heavy escort to another barack's, where they holded their office, they started with question's with the; who we are, to what group (Party) we belong, where we stationed and what we was searching in Tel Aviv in time of the order of "CUR-FEW", when we immigrate to Israel, where we reside, who send us to cruise in the city, and what task? so, that question holded till the morning next day, and they

returned us back in our barack's, in our jail!.

I am very sorry, but I must mention, that episode to my "DREAM" what I mentioned in my Manuscript (book) where I write, that I dreamed one night, that I was standing in the street in Yugoslavia, with my friend's "BETARIM", and all around us were German soldiers with their havy arm's and pointed on us every moment to shout and kill us, the same story now happened, but in full reality, only with some diffrences, that not German soldiers was arround us but Jewish brother's, from the same blood, but only because we were from other politich party.

The situation holded about 3-4 day's, when we one late evening observe; that nobody is garded us, so because the room were we was inprisoned was together with the kitchen and the dinner room where the personel of the camp eat. So we try to open the door to the dinner room, and we succeed, and went through the kitchen, and than we oppened the door for exit front of that boulding, we were very careful because we don't know's if they abandoned us or only they try to fulfill us, we don't trust them, so we very carefully went out the boulding and start runnig dire ction to the fances, arrived to the door what was closed, so we try helping one to the other's to jump over the fences what was about 2 meter high, so we cam out and strait start to run to the neaby street of Hayarkon and through the street of Motzkin, and so we disapeared and evrybody run to his home, where his familly was in shok, because they don't know's nothing about our disapearing and inprisoning.

That is the story about "A L T A L E N A!....

returned as fast as our horses, in our tails.
I am very sorry, but I could not find the person to be
"Baba" who I mentioned in my letter of the 10th. I was standing in
front of the house at night, and I was standing in
the street in Yagoula, with my horse's "BABA" and
all around us were German soldiers with their hands
and pointed on us every moment as they and still we
came along now happened, but in this way, on a way
as a difference, that our German soldiers were around us
out of the other's, from the same place only because
we were from the other party.

The situation held about 5-6 days when we were late
evening, about 10:00, that nobody is there, and
room was as was mentioned and together with the kitchen
and the dinner room where the person of the day was
we had to open the door to the dinner room, and we
and went through the kitchen, and then we went to the
for the front of the building, as was very well known
we don't know if they showed us or not, but we
like us, we don't know them, as we were certainly not out
the building and start running down stairs to the lower, and
vest in the door what was closed, as we try to get in
the other's to jump over the fence and was about 2 meters
high, so we ran out and start running to the left, and
start of the kitchen and through the street of the house, and
so we disappeared and everybody ran to his room, where his
family was in each, because they don't know a person
our situation and I was alone.
That is the story about "BABA" and I was alone.